



Across U.S., clergy mobilize to support vulnerable migrants

By DAVID CRARY and HANNAH GRABENSTEIN

Associated Press

So far this week, an anticipated nationwide sweep has not materialized at the expected magnitude. Yet the mere prospect of such action has prompted legions of pastors, rabbis and their congregations across the United States to stand ready to help vulnerable immigrants with offers of sanctuary and other services.

Here's a look at some of the recent developments:

Rabbis have organized a network of more than 70 synagogues nationwide committed to supporting immigrants and asylum seekers, whether through providing sanctuary or other assistance, such as accompanying people to check-ins with immigration authorities. Some rabbis have been arrested during a series of protests organized by Jewish activists to oppose immigration crackdowns, including a demonstration Tuesday at the headquarters of Immigration & Customs Enforce-



In this photo taken Wednesday, July 17, 2019, Jose Robles, center in white hat, walks with supporters before he presented himself to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials in Tukwila, Wash. The prospect of nationwide immigration raids has provided evidence that legions of pastors, rabbis and their congregations stand ready to help vulnerable immigrants with offers of sanctuary and other services.

ment in Washington. The network — T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights headquartered in

New York City — says it represents more than 2,000 rabbis and cantors. "I've never seen an issue

that has so mobilized the Jewish community all over the country — it's reached a breaking point," said

T'ruah's director of organizing, Rabbi Salem Pearce.

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Across U.S., clergy mobilize to support vulnerable migrants

Continued from Front

"A lot of our families went through the things immigrants are experiencing today."

Baltimore-based Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, which has been assisting uprooted people since 1939, has launched a United Sanctuaries of America campaign, seeking to recruit places of worship willing to provide sanctuary to anyone fearful of deportation without due process. LIRS also is reaching out to community organizations and nonprofits which would help ensure that sanctuary providers have needed resources such as legal assistance and logistical support.

"The response has been incredible," said LIRS president Krish O'Mara Vignarajah. "Churches are saying they want to be part of this — some have offered to provide safe spaces or meals. Some who have existing sanctuary spaces are now saying they need the legal services."

ICE considers churches

and some other places to be "sensitive locations" and generally does not pursue people inside who are seeking sanctuary.

In Seattle, the Gethsemane Lutheran Church provided sanctuary for more than a year for a Mexican immigrant, Jose Robles, who was targeted for deportation. On Wednesday, Robles — accompanied by his wife and three daughters, Gethsemane's pastor, and dozens of other supporters — presented himself to an ICE office in a Seattle suburb, where he was detained after applying for a stay of deportation.

Robles' fate is uncertain. The pastor, Joanne Engquist, said efforts would continue to get him a U-visa that would enable him to avoid deportation. Of course, we are deeply disappointed in the outcome," Engquist said. "What keeps us going is hope for justice."

At the Church of the Epiphany in Los Angeles, Father Tom Carey says housing people in the sanctuary is an "option of last resort."



In this photo taken Wednesday, July 17, 2019, Jose Robles, front center, rests with his hands behind his head as supporters hold their arms toward him during a blessing before he presented himself to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials in Tukwila, Wash.

Associated Press

Carey is a member of an organization called Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice, or CLUE, which advocates for low-income families and immigrants. Ahead of the announced raids, eight Christian congregations publicly offered their buildings as sanctuaries through the organization.

Even in his sermons, Carey takes a stance. By chance, this week's reading was the story of the good Samaritan.

"According to the parable that Jesus told, our neighbors are not the people we know. Our neighbors are the people we don't know who are in trouble," Carey said. "And the commandment is to love your neighbor."

Carey's church also connects immigrants needing legal help with an immigration lawyer who works pro bono. Of his 70 or so congregants, Carey estimates a third are in the U.S. illegally.

Pastor Robert Stearns at Living Water International Apostolic Ministries in Houston has also said his church can be a sanctuary, but his offer comes with caveats.

"The only people who will be allowed in are those who want to participate in becoming American citizens," Stearns said.

Stearns opened his small

church as a sanctuary at the request of his representative, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee. If a person in the U.S. illegally approached him, he said they'd find shelter at the church but they would also have to meet with lawyers or with Jackson Lee's staff. He believes it would be hypocritical to preach against doing wrong and then aid someone trying to break the law.

"We're not going to throw you to the wolves. What we're going to do is set the attorneys in place for you if you're willing to go through that process," he said. "If you don't want to do that, there's nothing I can do for you."

In Chicago, the diocese's Catholic Charities has seen a noticeable decline in the number of people taking advantage of its social aid programs, spokeswoman Brigid Murphy said.

On an agency-wide call Wednesday, concerned staff soberly discussed the downturn in mothers at its Women, Infants and Children Food and Nutrition Centers and identified ways the human services arm of the diocese can help.

Murphy said the organization will try to provide more remote assistance for people afraid to leave their homes. They'll work to ed-

ucate about immigrants' rights and provide as much legal assistance as can be discussed over the phone. In some ways, however, they're stymied: food can't be distributed by phone.

"Depending on how long this environment continues, we'll be looking at the best ways to serve people in need while staying within the bounds of the law," Murphy said. "But I don't know that we've come up with an answer to that yet."

Utah's dominant religious denomination, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, doesn't offer sanctuary to immigrants, but it tries to stake out a compassionate stance on immigration and said last year it was "deeply troubled" by the family separations at the border.

The religion allows local lay leaders to provide "life-sustaining" help to church members regardless of immigration status, while encouraging people to get legal help to resolve their immigration situation, said church spokesman Eric Hawkins.

Members of the faith, widely known as the Mormon church, account for a large portion of the volunteers who help immigrant and refugee resettlement programs run by Catholic Community Services of Utah. □

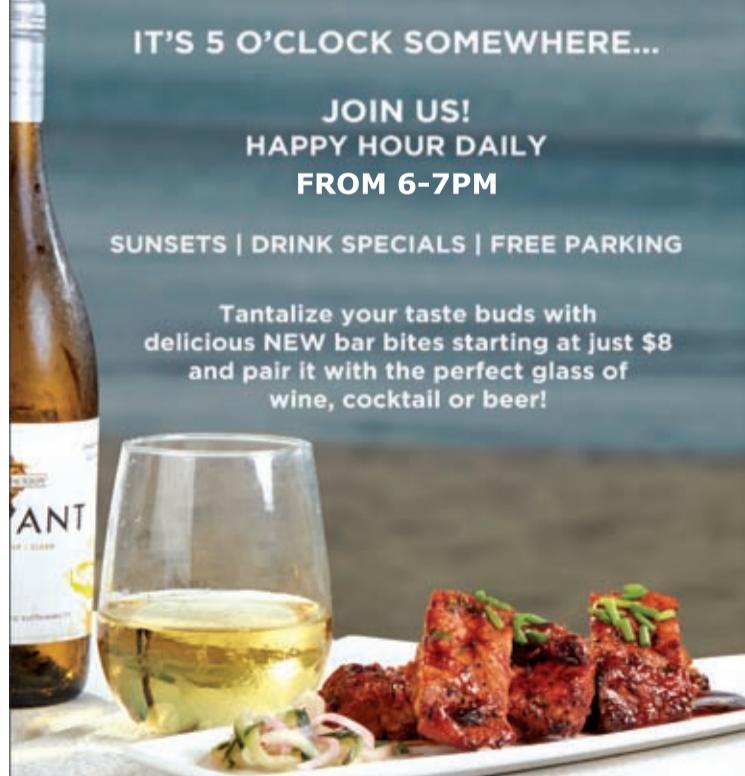
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This undated file still image from video provided by WTOV-TV in Steubenville, Ohio, shows Jefferson County, Ohio, Judge Joseph Bruzzese Jr., who was shot and wounded Monday, Aug. 21, 2017, as he walked toward his county's courthouse in Steubenville, Ohio.

Ohio prosecutor argues video release would endanger judges

By MARK GILLISPIE

Associated Press

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio (AP)

— An Ohio county prosecutor said Thursday releasing security camera footage of a judge being shot and wounded would reveal a courthouse's critical security infrastructure and law enforcement response protocols if provided to The Associated Press.

Jefferson County Prosecutor Jane Hanlin made those arguments before a three-judge panel during a state appeals court hearing at the Seventh District Court of Appeals in Youngstown after the Ohio Court of Claims ruled in February the video is a public record and should be released to the AP.

Jefferson County Judge Joseph Bruzzese Jr. was shot outside a Steubenville courthouse in August 2017 by 51-year-old Nathaniel Richmond, who was then killed by a probation officer. Richmond had a

pending wrongful death lawsuit in front of Bruzzese at the time. Bruzzese recovered and has returned to the bench.

The AP requested a copy of the surveillance video recorded by a camera positioned in front of the courthouse. Hanlin denied the request, saying the video shows sensitive courthouse infrastructure and is a security record, which exempts it from public disclosure un-

der Ohio law.

To give the AP the video would endanger judges and court personnel because it shows how they are protected, Hanlin said. "The resulting video at the Jefferson County Courthouse is actually a primer for the next attacker on how to do it better and more effectively," Hanlin told the judges.

The AP's attorney, Jack Greiner, countered that

Ohio case law is clear that the video is a public record as the Court of Claims ruled in February when it said Hanlin had failed to prove it was not.

Court of Claims Judge Patrick McGrath in his ruling said the video is not a security record because it does not contain information used to protect a public office from "attack, interference or sabotage."

Greiner argued Thursday that the video does not show any critical information about the courthouse security infrastructure nor is there any proof the video has been used to train law enforcement on the protocol for responding to such an attack in the two years after the shooting. Hanlin failed to provide evidence requested by a special master for the Court of Claims about how the video is integral to courthouse security and that protocol, Greiner said.

"They reverse engineered

an incident to describe the protocol in this case," Greiner said.

Hanlin told the judges she met with The AP reporter who made the request and showed him a video recorded from a street camera owned by the city of Steubenville and along with screen shots from the courthouse camera. The Steubenville video, however, did not show the entirety of the shooting, which included Bruzzese returning fire, and the subsequent law enforcement response. No decision is expected for several weeks.

Richmond was the father of former high school football player Ma'Lik Richmond who was convicted of rape in 2013. Ma'Lik, then 17, served about 10 months in a juvenile lockup after being convicted with another Steubenville High School football player of raping a 16-year-old girl during an alcohol-fueled party in 2012. (asterisk) □

Hollywood stars open wallets to Buttigieg's 2020 campaign

By BRIAN SLODYSKO

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A-list celebrities seem to be opening their hearts — or at least their wallets — to Pete Buttigieg.

The South Bend, Indiana, mayor was a virtual unknown months ago. But he used breakout town hall performances, viral moments and his biography as a millennial, gay military veteran and a former Rhodes scholar to get the attention of the entertainment industry and rake in cash for his 2020 Democratic presidential campaign.

Among the more than 50 celebrities who gave Buttigieg money during the second quarter are rocker Joan Jett (\$150), recording industry mogul David Geffen (\$5,600), fashion icon Anna Wintour (\$2,800), designer Tom Ford (\$5,600), actress Sharon Stone (\$5,600) and comedian Ellen DeGeneres (\$5,600).

They helped fuel his field-leading \$24.8 million fundraising haul.

Democratic politicians — and particularly White House hopefuls — have



Democratic presidential candidate South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg listens to a woman as he campaigns, Friday, July 12, 2019, in Rochester, N.H.

long leaned on the entertainment industry's home of California to serve as an ATM for their political ambitions. During the second quarter, Buttigieg proved to be particularly effective at it, outraising home-state Sen. Kamala Harris on his way toward collecting \$3.8 million there, according to

an analysis of Federal Election Commission data. "We're very interested in Pete. People are drawn to civility and intelligence in this moment more than ever before," said Michael S. Smith, a designer and major Democratic donor who has cut checks to several 2020 candidates

Associated Press

and hosted a fundraiser for former Vice President Joe Biden that raised over \$750,000. It's unclear whether Buttigieg's early popularity in Hollywood is sustainable for a campaign that's still in its early stages. Many entertainment industry heavyweights who have given to Buttigieg are keeping their options open and have also given to others in the race. Smith and his husband, James Costos, the former ambassador to Spain, both gave to Buttigieg. They are also among the co-hosts of another Biden fundraiser in Los Angeles on Thursday at the home of Sony's Motion Picture Chairman Tom Rothman. The event also has drawn super-agent Bryan Lourd, Warner Bros. Chairman Toby Emmerich and former Sony chair Amy Pascal.

Buttigieg was supposed to have a massive LGBT fundraiser last month that included Lourd, showrunner Ryan Murphy and actor Billy Eichner, among others. But it was canceled — and has yet to be rescheduled — so that Buttigieg could deal with unrest at home after a white South Bend police officer shot and killed a black man who police say was armed with a knife.

Still, when it comes to the sizzle of celebs, Buttigieg

appears to be surpassing his rivals. During the second fundraising quarter, Buttigieg kept up an aggressive fundraising schedule, often hitting multiple events in one day, including one held by actress Gwyneth Paltrow, who gave him \$2,800.

He also collected money from Star Trek actor George Takei (\$1,250); DreamWorks co-founder Jeffrey Katzenberg and his wife, Marilyn (\$5,600); Full House star John Stamos (\$1,000); actress and singer Barbra Streisand (\$1,000); and comedian and writer Larry David (\$2,800).

He was also given \$5,600 by Playboy heir Cooper Hefner and collected \$250 from actress Jennifer Aniston, records show.

Other presidential contenders have drawn celebs of their own.

Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren, who has sworn off attending big-dollar fundraisers, received donations from actress Scarlett Johansson (\$2,800), comedian Amy Schumer (\$5,600), television personality Rosie O'Donnell (\$355), Jett (\$235), actress and singer Bette Midler (\$2,800), actor and producer Ryan Reynolds (\$2,000), television producer Shonda Rhimes (\$2,800) and musician Jackson Browne (\$1,200).

New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker collected \$732 from his girlfriend, the actress Rosario Dawson, \$500 from actress Alicia Silverstone and \$2,800 from actor Ben Affleck. Actress Jane Fonda gave \$1,000 apiece to Warren, Washington Gov. Jay Inslee and Montana Gov. Steve Bullock, for whom she co-hosted a fundraiser. Fonda gave \$2,000 to Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar, records show. Inslee also collected \$5,600 from Pearl Jam guitarist Stone Gossard.

New York Mayor Bill De Blasio, who was late to enter the race and languished in fundraising, collected at least one contribution from a celebrity. Actor Steve Buscemi gave him \$5,600, records show. □

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About 10,000 au pairs to get paid in class-action settlement

By COLLEEN SLEVIN

Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — About 10,000 live-in childcare workers from around the world will share in a class-action settlement in a case that challenged whether they should be treated as employees entitled to minimum wage or members of the family learning about the United States while helping out at home.

U.S. District Judge Christine Arguello gave final approval to the \$65.5 million deal Thursday during a hearing in Denver, saying the payments to au pairs who filed claims by the May deadline would average \$3,500 each.

About 160,000 au pairs who came to the United States to work from 2009 to late 2018 under J-1 visas were identified as having the potential to receive money under the deal announced in January. Notices were sent to nearly all of them, but about 10,000 filed claims by the May deadline.

About 40 percent of the deal will go to pay for administrative costs, lawyers' fees and other expenses. Lawyers for Towards Justice, a nonprofit Denver law firm that filed the lawsuit in 2014, and the high-profile New York firm of Boies Schiller Flexner were not paid during the case.

The settlement also requires that 15 agencies authorized by the U.S. State Department to connect au pairs with families notify both parties going forward that au pairs can negoti-



In this Dec. 20, 2018 file photo attorneys, from left, David Seligman, Nina DiSalvo and Alexander Hood, of Towards Justice, pose outside the organization's office east of downtown Denver.

Associated Press

ate to be paid more than the minimum \$195.75 a week required by the department. The minimum pay is based on the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 for 45 hours of work minus a 40 percent deduction for room and board.

The agencies did not admit any wrongdoing.

The lawsuit, brought by 11 au pairs from Colombia, Australia, Germany, South Africa and Mexico, claimed the agencies colluded to keep their wages low, ignoring overtime and state minimum wage laws and treating the federal minimum wage for au pairs as the maximum they could earn. In some cases, the lawsuit said, parents pushed the limits of their duties, requiring au pairs to

do things like feed backyard chickens and help families move and not allowing them to eat with the family.

A handful of former au pairs submitted written comments to the court. Echoing allegations in the lawsuit, Alejandra Guadalupe Franyutti Ramirez of Queretaro, Mexico, said she was fired and given a short time to leave the country when she got sick soon after pushing back about her duties while serving as an au pair in Portola Valley, California.

Meanwhile, Eva Bein of Germany, described having a positive experience with her host family said she objected to the settlement's focus on pay, fearing it could hurt the cultural

exchange mission. She also said the deal should require sponsors to not only check on au pairs more often but remove host families who mistreat them, noting that agencies now act in the interest of the families who pay them fees to recruit au pairs.

The settlement comes amid a movement to protect the rights of domestic workers, who were originally excluded from federal labor protections. A handful of states have passed domestic worker bills of rights, and U.S. Sen. Kamala Harris and Rep. Pramilla Jayapal introduced a federal version this week.

The settlement did not address whether au pairs are entitled to higher minimum wages in states and cities that have set them above the federal minimum or whether families should be allowed to deduct room and board expenses, something that is generally not permitted when they are seen as a benefit to the employer. The federal appeals court based in Boston is considering the wage issue in a case challenging Massachusetts' inclusion of au pairs in its domestic bill of rights. David Seligman, executive director of Towards Justice, said the settlement provides important reforms in the industry in addition to the payouts.

"The outcome reaffirms that everyone — including low-wage workers — has the right to a free and competitive marketplace," he said.

The practice of having au pairs — French for "on par with" — developed in post-war Europe, where young people lived with families in other countries to learn a language in exchange for helping with childcare and some housework. In Europe, au pairs generally are limited to working 30 hours a week.

The concept came to the United States in 1986 when the State Department launched it as a cultural exchange program amid a growing demand for childcare. □



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New York's climate plan will drive big changes, if it works

By MARY ESCH

Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — Solar panels on every roof. Parking meters that double as car chargers. Wind turbines towering above farm fields and ocean waves.

A new law signed Thursday by New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo sets the nation's most aggressive targets for reducing carbon emissions and is intended to drive dramatic changes over the next 30 years. It calls for all the state's electricity to come from renewable, carbon-free sources such as solar, wind and hydropower. Transportation and building heating systems would also run on clean electricity rather than oil and gas.

"The environment and climate change are the most critically important policy priorities we face," the Democratic governor said in announcing his signing of the sweeping climate legislation and the nation's largest offshore wind project. "They literally will determine the future — or the lack thereof."

But while the legislation's goals are clear, details on how to achieve them have yet to be determined. It isn't clear how much all this change will cost, or even whether it is all technically feasible.

Some critics call the plan impractical.

"It would require massive deployment of both onshore and offshore wind, which is going to be enormously costly," said Robert Bryce, an energy specialist at the Manhattan Institute, a conservative think tank. "You already have local opposition to onshore wind that has stymied the state's ability to build any new capacity."

The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act requires the state to cut greenhouse gas emissions to 85% below 1990 levels by 2050 and offset the remaining 15% with measures such as planting forests and capturing carbon for storage underground.

A new 22-member New York State Climate Action



In this Feb. 14, 2017, file photo, a rooftop is covered with solar panels at the Brooklyn Navy Yard in New York.

Associated Press

Council will have three years to recommend mandates, regulations, incentives and other measures.

The law will require utilities to get 70% of the state's electricity from renewable sources by 2030. Last year, 26.4% came from renewables, according to a report by New York Independent System Operator, the nonprofit corporation that runs the state's power grid. "The legislation is going to shape the way we live, work and play going forward," said Peter Iwanowicz, executive director of Environmental Advocates of New York, which supports the plan.

Massive wind farms will play a key role in the transition. Cuomo announced Norway-based Equinor will develop one farm, generating power for New York City, while a joint venture of Connecticut-based Eversource Energy and Orsted A/S, a Danish company, will develop another, off the coast of Long Island.

Combined, the two farms will have a 1,700-megawatt capacity, enough to power 1 million homes, Cuomo said at the signing, where he was joined by former Vice President Al Gore. "This is the most ambitious, the most well-crafted legislation in the country," Gore said.

The act calls for 9,000 megawatts of offshore wind capacity by 2035. It also calls for 6,000 megawatts of solar capacity by 2025, five times the current amount.

The Climate Action Council will likely call for new building codes to increase energy efficiency and require heating and cooling systems using electric heat pumps that transfer heat between indoors and outdoors. There may be incentives to retrofit existing homes and buildings.

The New York City Council this spring passed an aggressive climate bill of its own that would require energy-efficient building retrofits.

Since transportation makes up a third of the state's emissions, the climate council will likely push for greater mass transit and an accelerated shift to electric vehicles, which the state now promotes with rebates and investments in charging infrastructure.

Ken Girardin, a policy ana-

lyst at the Empire Center for Public Policy, a spinoff of the Manhattan Institute, calculates the offshore wind buildout will cost more than \$48 billion upfront and \$1 billion in annual operating cost. At least 56 square miles (145 square kilometers) of solar panels would be needed to hit the 2025 goal of 6,000 megawatts of solar capacity, Girardin said.

But Gerrard said the costs of wind and solar installations have been dropping. "It's much more economical to build large amounts of wind and solar energy than even three or four years ago," Gerrard said.

Mark Jacobson, an energy expert at Stanford University, led a 2013 study outlining how New York could transition to 100% renewable energy by 2030. It envisioned 4,020 onshore wind turbines spread across 1.5% of the state's land area — 818 square miles (2,119 square kilometers). And solar farms would cover 463 square miles.

About a third less land area would be required with today's technology, he said, but the buildup would still be staggering — especially in a state where land is expensive and local opposition has stymied such projects.

New transmission lines, which also generate local opposition, would be needed to tie new wind and solar projects to the electrical grid.

"It's definitely going to cost ratepayers a lot more for reliable electricity," said Gavin Donohue, president of Independent Power Producers of New York, whose members produce three-quarters of the state's electricity. He said efficient, low-emission natural gas plants built in the last 10 years are needed to keep the lights on.

"To say we're not going to have any fossil fuel by 2050 is preposterous," Donohue said. "Are we not going to have airplanes or gas-fueled cars? Is everyone going to have to retrofit their houses?"

Other Democratic-led states have passed laws to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in response to the Trump administration's efforts to roll back regulations on power plants and vehicles. New York is the sixth state to mandate 100% renewable energy sources in coming decades, after Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico, Washington and California. But New York's plan would get there first.

"It's one of the strongest climate change laws in the world," said Michael Gerrard, director of the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law at Columbia University. "It's a heavy lift, but not as difficult as coping with the effects of severe climate change if action is not taken." □



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Philadelphia moves to fire 13 officers over Facebook posts

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The Philadelphia Police Department is suspending 13 officers with intent to fire them following an investigation into offensive and sometimes threatening Facebook posts, the police commissioner announced on Thursday.

The department had placed 72 officers on administrative leave in June after a nonprofit group published the results of a two-year review of personal Facebook posts or comments from officers in Philadelphia and seven other U.S. police departments.

The team of researchers found officers from Arizona to Florida bashing immigrants and Muslims, promoting racist stereotypes, identifying with right-wing militia groups and, especially, glorifying police brutality. All the posts were public.

All but three of the Philadelphia officers now on leave face some form of discipline, from dismissal to reprimands, said Police Commissioner Richard Ross. He said the department considered several factors when deciding on discipline, including the officers' constitutional rights and the integrity of the police department.

"I continue to be very disappointed and angered by these posts, many of which violate basic human decency," Ross said. "We need to move past this ridiculous hate that has consumed this country and has done so for centuries."

Officers who were on track to be fired made posts or comments that advocated violence or death "against any protected class such

as ethnicity, national origin, sex, religion and race" or worked to "erode the trust necessary for a police department to carry out its core mission," Ross said. Examples included posts with the words "Death to Islam," referring to blacks as "thugs," and homophobic memes which referenced violence, he said.

In total, the database found over 3,000 troubling Facebook posts by 328 active duty police officers, Ross said.

None of the officers was identified, and Ross said the suspensions hadn't yet begun because some of the officers were on vacation.

Mayor Jim Kenney joined the commissioner at a news conference to announce the findings of the city's investigation, which was aided by a private law firm.

"Building trust will always be our top priority," Kenney said, calling the posts deeply disturbing and antithetical to what his administration is about. "We will not allow this terrible incident to break down the progress we've made."

All of the 72 officers put on administrative leave will get social media and professionalism training, he said.

The department is also looking at software that they could use to track and audit officers' social media postings.

John Mc Nesby, president of the Philadelphia police union, said the Fraternal Order of Police is disappointed that the officers will be terminated without due process and they condemn racist and hateful

speech in any form.

"We are currently meeting with each officer to prepare an appropriate response to protect our members' rights under the contract," he said in a statement. "The overwhelming majority of our members serve this city with integrity and professionalism." □



Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney, accompanied by Police Commissioner Richard Ross speak during a news conference in Philadelphia, Thursday, July 18, 2019.

Associated Press



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Lawmakers impede next UK leader's path to a no-deal Brexit

By JILL LAWLESS

RAF CASERT

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — With Britain set to get a new pro-Brexit leader within days, lawmakers on Thursday erected a roadblock in the path of any attempt by the incoming prime minister to take the country out of the European Union without a divorce deal.

The move came as the U.K.'s official economic watchdog said a no-deal Brexit would trigger a recession, with the pound plummeting in value and the economy shrinking by 2% in a year.

The Office for Budget Responsibility made its assessment as chances of a disruptive exit from the 28-nation bloc appear to be rising.

Britain is due to leave the EU on Oct. 31, but Parliament has repeatedly rejected the divorce deal struck between Prime Minister Theresa May and the bloc. Both men vying to take over from her as Britain's prime minister, Boris Johnson and Jeremy Hunt, say they will leave without an agreement if the EU won't renegotiate.

Most lawmakers, however,



In this Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2018 file photo, people aboard a boat make way past the Houses of Parliament with Big Ben's clock tower, the Elizabeth Tower covered in scaffolding for repairs in London.

Associated Press

oppose a no-deal Brexit, and want to try to stop it happening. Johnson, who is the strong favorite to win the Conservative leadership race next week, has not ruled out suspending Parliament if it tries to block his plan to leave the EU at Halloween.

That got harder on Thursday, after the House of Commons approved a measure that effectively

stops the government from sending lawmakers home in the weeks before the planned Oct. 31 departure. The 315-274 Commons vote saw several government ministers — including Treasury chief Philip Hammond — abstain rather than support the government's call to keep suspending Parliament as an option. "We're putting down a marker," said Conservative

lawmaker Alistair Burt, who co-sponsored the move. "Parliament can't be bypassed."

Digital Minister Margot James resigned so she could vote against the government, saying it was "time for me to make a stand."

Three years after British voters narrowly chose to leave the 28-nation EU, the nation remains deeply divid-

ed and stuck in limbo. May announced her resignation last month after failing to win Parliament's approval for her Brexit deal.

Her successor is being chosen by about 160,000 members of the Conservative Party, most of whom are strongly in favor of Brexit and prepared to accept the risks of leaving without a deal. Johnson is the runaway favorite to win the contest when the result is announced Tuesday.

He claims that Britain can flourish outside the EU if it has enough optimism and "mojo," and says a no-deal Brexit will be "vanishingly inexpensive" if the country prepares properly.

But most economists predict the economic shock would be severe, as tariffs and border checks were imposed overnight on trade between Britain and the EU.

The Office for Budget Responsibility, which provides the U.K. government with independent economic forecasts, said a no-deal Brexit would see "heightened uncertainty and declining confidence deter investment, while higher trade barriers with the EU weigh on exports." □

EU to implement new monitoring system to enforce rule of law



Commuters use escalators at the Schuman metro and train station outside the European Commission headquarters in Brussels, Wednesday, July 17, 2019.

Associated Press

Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland (AP) —

The European Union said Thursday it's implementing a new monitoring system to ensure that all member states are complying with

the bloc's rule of law requirements.

Frans Timmermans, a vice president at the executive European Commission, said in Brussels that an annual review of all 28 EU members

will be held to determine if any issues have surfaced. He said that the purpose isn't to point the finger at any individual country, but to put in place a regular oversight process — to "improve the common understanding of what the rule of law is and create a strong rule of law culture across the EU."

The move results from the EU's decision to begin sanction procedures over changes to the justice systems in Poland and Hungary, which are widely seen as violating EU law.

The main thrust of the new measures is to pre-empt changes that could be considered as bad practice.

"We will continue ensuring the right application of

the rule of law across Europe because we believe it goes to the very heart of the functioning of the European Union," Timmermans told a news conference. He stressed that countries have every right to reform their justice systems but that they have to do so within EU law.

Poland has been in particular focus of late. The commission's dispute with Poland is largely centered on a new Disciplinary Chamber at the Supreme Court that can see judges punished when their decisions and actions are deemed wrong or inappropriate.

The commission found the reasoning provided by the Polish authorities as unsatisfactory. The government has been pointing to re-

cently reported cases of mistaken convictions and of dishonesty.

This week, the commission stepped up the pressure on Poland to reverse the changes.

"The way the disciplinary chamber is organized leads to a level of political steering and interference which does pose a problem for the independence of judges and we were not convinced by the reply of the Polish government so we will take this a step further," Timmermans said.

Poland, he added, has been given two months to make corrections.

"If that does not lead to a satisfactory reply, we of course will take the issue to the European Court of Justice." □



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Sea-Watch 3 captain calls for EU action on migrants rescues

By GIADA ZAMPANO

Associated Press

ROME (AP) — A German humanitarian ship captain who eluded an Italian effort to block her from docking at an Italian port with migrants onboard has called for the European Commission to do its best to avoid new political standoffs.

Carola Rackete, captain of the Dutch-flagged Sea-Watch 3, was questioned by Italian prosecutors in the Sicilian city of Agrigento on Thursday for allegedly aiding illegal immigration.

Rackete was arrested June 29 for entering the Italian port of Lampedusa, ignoring a block imposed by far-right Interior Minister Matteo Salvini. She was also accused of hitting an Italian border police boat as she disembarked 40 migrants who were rescued off Libya and spent over two weeks at sea in a political standoff.

A judge overturned the ar-



Sea-Watch3 German captain Carola Rackete is accompanied by her lawyer Leonardo Marino, right, as she arrives for questioning in court in the southern Sicilian town of Agrigento, Italy, Thursday, July 18, 2019.

rest three days later, saying the captain had acted to save lives.

But Rackete is still under investigation for entering Italian waters despite a direct

order for him not to do so. "I've been very happy to be able to explain all the details of the rescue operation carried out on June 12," Rackete said.

Associated Press

"I hope that the European Commission, after the election of the new parliament, will do its best to avoid this kind of situation and that all the countries will accept

migrants saved by civilian rescue ships," she added. Rackete's lawyer, Alessandro Gamberini, told reporters that after her arrest was overturned, she is free to go back to Germany. Rackete hasn't said whether she has decided to remain in Italy for now.

Gamberini also said that criminalizing people for saving human lives at sea is an act of "irresponsibility." Salvini has pushed a tough stance against illegal migration, closing Italian ports to humanitarian boats. He blames them for aiding human traffickers by rescuing migrants who try to cross the Mediterranean to reach Europe.

Earlier Thursday, EU interior ministers including Salvini gathered at an informal meeting in Finland, which took over bloc's rotating six-month presidency earlier this month, to discuss migration issues and the EU's asylum policy. □

Greece gets nod from creditors to ease bailout-era taxes

By DEREK GATOPoulos

Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Senior officials from Greece's creditor institutions are meeting in Athens with the country's new conservative government, which is planning to begin dismantling bailout-era taxes next month. Representatives of the European Commission, European Central Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and a eurozone rescue fund were holding meetings Thursday with at least five cabinet ministers,



Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis, right, Deputy Prime Minister Panagiotis Pikrammenos, center, and Finance Minister Christos Staikouras, left, take the oath during a swearing in ceremony at the parliament in Athens, Wednesday, July 17, 2019.

Associated Press

government officials said. Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis' conservative New Democracy party returned to power after winning a general election earlier this month on a pledge to cut taxes imposed during Greece's three successive international bailouts.

The final bailout program ended last August, after Greece had received a total of nearly 290 billion euros (\$325 billion) in rescue loans. Bailout institutions, which hold most of Greece's debt and set repayment terms,

are broadly in favor of easing tax rates but are also pressing the government to stick to strict budget performance targets. "I know that the government wants to lower taxes which in principle I think is positive because it's growth-friendly," Klaus Regling, head of the European Stability Mechanism, the euro area's rescue fund, told state-run ERT television in an interview. "The question is always how it's financed because it means there will be less revenue." □

Turkey calls on US to reverse decision on F-35 exclusion

By SUZAN FRASER

Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — The U.S. decision to exclude Turkey from an American-led fighter jet program goes against the "spirit of alliance," the Turkish government said Thursday, and called on its NATO ally to reverse the decision.

In a major break with a longtime ally, U.S. President Donald Trump's administration on Wednesday said Turkey is being kicked out of the F-35 program because it is buying the Russian S-400 air defense system. Washington says the S-400 would compromise the F-35 program and aid Russian intelligence.

In a statement, Turkey's Foreign Ministry rejected that assertion.

"This unilateral step is incompatible with the spirit of alliance and is not based on any legitimate justification," the ministry said. "Not only is it unfair to keep Turkey out of a program of which it is a partner but the claim that the S-400 will weaken the F-35 is invalid." The ministry said: "We call on the United States to



In this March 29, 2019, photo, a U.S. F-35A fighter jet prepares to land at Chungju Air Base in Chungju, South Korea.

come back from this mistake that will cause irreparable damage to our strategic ties."

On Thursday, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's spokesman, Ibrahim Kalin, held a telephone conversation with White House national security adviser John Bolton, during which he expressed Tur-

key's unease over the U.S. decision, according to a statement from Erdogan's office.

During the call, Kalin said "one-sided impositions" would prevent the healthy progress of Turkish-U.S. ties. Despite the tensions, the two also discussed a possible date for Trump to visit Turkey, according to the

Associated Press

statement. Turkey began taking delivery of components of the Russian system last week. A Russian cargo plane carrying more parts of the system landed at an air base near Ankara for a seventh day running on Thursday. Erdogan has said the system will be fully operational by April.

On Wednesday, Ellen

Lord, the Pentagon's chief weapons buyer, told a news conference that the U.S. has suspended Turkey from the F-35 program and is beginning the process of its formal removal.

The U.S. government is concerned that the S-400 could be used to gather data on the capabilities of the F-35, and that the information could end up in Russian hands.

Turkey has called for the establishment of a committee that would include NATO officials to study the risks. Turkey refused to bow to U.S. pressure to cancel the S-400 agreement with Russia, saying the deal is a matter of national sovereignty and that the agreement was a done deal.

Erdogan has said his government hopes to co-produce high-tech weaponry systems with Russia in the future, further defying the U.S. and other NATO allies. On Thursday, the head of Russia's state-controlled Rostech corporation said Moscow would be willing to sell Turkey its Su-35 fighter jets if Ankara "expresses interest." □

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Scuffles near Lebanon parliament before vote on budget



A Lebanese retired soldier waves the army flag, as he protests in front of burning tires, at a road linking to the parliament building where lawmakers and ministers are discussing the draft 2019 state budget, in Beirut, Lebanon, Thursday, July 18, 2019.

Associated Press

By FADI AL-TAWIL
Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Dozens of protesters scuffled with Lebanese security forces guarding the country's parliament Thursday just as lawmakers were meeting

ahead of a final vote on a controversial austerity budget.

The protesters, most of them army veterans, were pushed back and moved down the road, where they burned tires and blocked

traffic in the already heavily cordoned off area outside parliament.

The protesters had been camped outside parliament for three days when the draft bill returned to the 128-member parliament and members began their final discussion on whether to ratify the bill.

After the protests, the parliament speaker adjourned the evening session and postponed the vote until Friday.

The austerity budget is designed to avert a financial crisis in heavily indebted Lebanon. But it has fallen short of expectations among many lawmakers and the public who said it mainly focused on reducing public spending and raising taxes instead of tackling structural reforms, issues of governance and corruption. □

Man shouting 'You die' kills 33 at Japan anime studio

By MARI YAMAGUCHI

Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — A man screaming "You die!" burst into an animation studio in Kyoto, doused it with a flammable liquid and set it on fire Thursday, killing 33 people in an attack that shocked the country and brought an outpouring of grief from anime fans.

Thirty-six others were injured, some of them critically, in a blaze that sent people scrambling up the stairs toward the roof in a desperate — and futile — attempt to escape what proved to be Japan's deadliest fire in nearly two decades. Others emerged bleeding, blackened and barefoot.

The suspect, identified only as a 41-year-old man who did not work for the studio, was injured and taken to a hospital. Police gave no details on the motive, but a witness told Japanese TV that the attacker angrily complained that something of his had been stolen, possibly by the company. Most of the victims were employees of Kyoto Animation, which does work



Firefighters work as smoke billows from a three-story building of Kyoto Animation in a fire in Kyoto, western Japan, Thursday, July 18, 2019.

on movies and TV productions but is best known for its mega-hit stories featuring high school girls. The tales are so popular that fans make pilgrimages to some of the places depicted. The blaze started in the three-story building in Japan's ancient capital after the attacker sprayed an unidentified liquid accelerant, police and fire officials said.

"There was an explosion, then I heard people shouting, some asking for help," a witness told TBS TV. "Black smoke was rising from windows on upper floors. Ten there was a man struggling to crawl out of the window."

Japanese media reported the fire might have been set near the front door, forcing people to find other ways out.

Associated Press

The building has a spiral staircase that may have allowed flames and smoke to rise quickly to the top floor, NHK noted. Fire expert Yuji Hasemi at Waseda University told NHK that paper drawings and other documents in the studio also may have contributed to the fire's rapid spread. Firefighters found 33 bodies, 20 of them on the third floor and some on the stairs

to the roof, where they had apparently collapsed, Kyoto fire official Kazuhiro Hayashi said. Two were found dead on the first floor, 11 others on the second floor, he said.

A witness who saw the attacker being approached by police told Japanese media that the man admitted spreading gasoline and setting the fire with a lighter. She told NHK public television that the man had burns on his arms and legs and complained that something had been stolen from him. She told Kyodo News that his hair got singed and his legs were exposed because his jeans were burned below the knees. "He sounded he had a grudge against the society, and he was talking angrily to the policemen, too, though he was struggling with pain," she told Kyodo News. "He also sounded he had a grudge against Kyoto Animation."

NHK footage also showed sharp knives police had collected from the scene, though it was not clear if they belonged to the attacker. □

South Korea's central bank lowers rate amid Japan trade row

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea's central bank on Thursday cut its policy rate for the first time in three years to shore up growth threatened by a trade dispute with Japan. The Bank of Korea lowered its key interest rate by a quarter percentage point to 1.50% following a meeting of its monetary policy committee, which also cut its growth forecast for the country's economy this year from 2.5% to just above 2%.

The bank cited slowing exports and domestic investment and volatility in financial markets related to the trade war between the U.S. and China and Japanese curbs on certain technology exports to South Korea. The bank had hiked the

rate by 0.25% points in November and last lowered borrowing costs in June 2016.

The bank said it will "carefully monitor developments such as the U.S.-China trade dispute, Japan's export restrictions, any changes in the economies and monetary policies of major countries ... and geopolitical risks, while examining their effects on domestic growth and inflation."

The move comes amid escalating tensions between South Korea and Japan over Tokyo's move to tighten controls on the exports of photoresists and two other chemicals to South Korean companies that use them to produce semiconductors and display screens for smartphones and TVs. □

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Argentina acts against Hezbollah, blamed for terror attacks

By MAYRA PERTOSSI

Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina

(AP) — Argentina's government on Thursday branded Hezbollah a terrorist organization and froze its assets, 25 years to the day after a bombing blamed on the Lebanese-based group destroyed a Jewish community center in Argentina's capital, killing 85 people.

The nation's Financial Information Unit took the action a day after President Mauricio Macri's government created a list of terrorist organizations to help coordinate actions with other nations and as the nation held memorial services for victims of the attack, for which no one has been convicted.

The unit noted that Hezbollah has been accused of responsibility for a 1992 attack on the Israeli Embassy in Argentina that killed 29 people, as well as the 1994 attack on the Argentine-Israelite Mutual Association in Buenos Aires. Hundreds were injured in both bombings.

"At the present time, Hezbollah continues to represent a current and active threat to national security and the integrity of the financial, economic order of the Argentine Republic," the unit said.

It's not clear how much im-



A sign reading in Spanish "Memory and Justice" and the names of those who died during the bombing of the AMIA Jewish center that killed 85 people is displayed outside the site of the attack on the 25th anniversary of the bombing in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Thursday, July 18, 2019.

Associated Press

pact the ruling will have or how many assets Hezbollah might have in Argentina. The group already has been put on terrorism lists by the U.S., the European Union and several other nations.

At midmorning Thursday, sirens resounded across the Argentine capital to honor the 85 people who died in the nation's worst terrorist attack.

Argentine prosecutors blame Iranian officials for plotting the attack and say Hezbollah operatives car-

ried it out. But nobody has been convicted despite years of tangled investigations. Iran has refused to turn over the former officials and ex-diplomats who now face charges, and denies any involvement.

The memorial service began with a moment of silence, followed by a reading of the names of each of the 85 victims.

"How is it possible that 25 years later there has not been a single responsible person imprisoned for this crime against humanity?"

asked Ariel Eichbaum, president of the association, which is known by its Spanish initials, AMIA.

"We continue to have questions to which there are still no answers. Twenty-five years have passed and the wound remains open, a wound that cannot be closed without justice," he added.

The investigation into the attack was plagued with irregularities from the start. A court in 2004 absolves about 20 people who initially had been accused of

being the "local connection" for the attack and called for an investigation into a possible coverup by the government of President Carlos Menem, who had left office in 1999.

A court this year cleared Menem of charges he had interfered to protect a friend implicated in the case. But the initial judge in the case, two prosecutors and a former intelligence police chief were found guilty of embezzlement and cover-up in the case. Another former president, Cristina Fernández, faces trial along with 11 other people on separate charges of cover-up based on a deal with Iran that would have let a special international truth commission question those accused in the case, but with no guarantee they would be arrested. She denies any wrongdoing.

Special prosecutor Alberto Nisman originally brought such charges in 2015, but was found dead of a gunshot wound in his apartment a few days later. No one has been convicted in that case.

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo was flying to Argentina to attend another memorial service on Friday as well as an international counterterrorism conference. □

Mexico cuts budget for all, from athletes to archaeologists

By MARK STEVENSON

AMY GUTHRIE

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The Mexican Olympic Committee said Wednesday it will no longer be able to offer food, lodging and medical services at its main sports training complex, the latest casualty in a round of deep budget cuts by President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador.

Seldom has a leftist been so obsessively austerity-minded as Lopez Obrador. In his first seven months in office, he has cut government posts and salaries, and drastically reduced spending on perks and benefits. He also has cut his own salary and plans to sell off the



In this June 8, 2019 photo, Xiomara Valdivia, who will compete for Mexico in the women's fitness bodybuilding competition at the upcoming Pan Am Games, practices moves from her routine during a training visit to the Mexican Olympic Committee facilities in Mexico City.

Associated Press

presidential jet, saying: "We cannot have a rich government with the people

poor."

Lopez Obrador describes his financial plan as "re-

publican austerity." But his cuts have begun to seriously hit everyone from athletes to archaeologists, who worry they won't have enough money to carry out essential tasks. Critics say his government is spending the same amount of money, just reallocating it to different things.

The Mexican Olympic Committee said it lacks the \$4.7 million needed to run the Olympic sports center in Mexico City with full services. The complex has track and pool facilities, as well as a gymnasium and velodrome. This year, government funding for sports is about 25% below 2018 levels.

Also this week, research-

ers and archaeologists at the National Institute of Anthropology and History said about 200 employees have been laid off since the start of the year, and more layoffs are feared.

Across the government, Lopez Obrador's administration has eliminated consultancy and management positions, and thousands more public servants have resigned.

Economist Valeria Moy says the government has plenty of fat to trim, but notes that this year's federal budget of \$5.8 trillion pesos (\$304 billion) is about the same size as the 2018 budget. Lopez Obrador took office in December, allowing him to craft the 2019 budget. □



July's Local Catch

ORANJESTAD — Slowly but surely, Aruba has climbed to the top tier of fishing destinations in the Caribbean. And for good reason. With amazing weather year-round, and a wide range of exciting fish to catch, this colorful island has all the ingredients you need for a bucket list fishing experience.

Fishing in Aruba is exceptionally good in July. King Mackerel enter the scene in full force, and you can catch them on the surrounding reefs within just minutes from the coastline. Wahoo fishing is good as usual, and Mahi are biting hard.

Captain Juan Carlos aboard Charters Aruba has had a pretty good going with Mahi in the past month. If you happen to catch one yourself, the Captain will clean and fillet your catch, so you can bring it to a local restaurant for a nice dinner to round the day off.

Inshore, Snapper and Grouper fishing has been on fire. A four-hour outing will let you catch your fill of these critters. If you're a Tarpon fishing enthusiast, July is probably your last chance to catch a record-breaker before the bite slows down.

If you're after bigger fish, however, you'll be pleased to know that Yellowfin Tuna fishing is still going strong. You won't need long to reach the offshore fishing grounds, so an 8-hour outing will give you plenty of time to wrestle these monsters.

Captain of the Month

Captain Juan Carlos is an experienced and enthusiastic captain who will do whatever it takes to land you a trophy catch and to give you the time of your life! Juan Carlos specializes in deep sea fishing, and is accompanied by a knowledgeable and professional crew. The Captain and crew speak English, Dutch, Spanish and Papiamentu fluently, and are always eager to help beginners learn how to fish.

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PALM BEACH — Doctor Lili Beke from the Walk-In Clinic has a solid reputation, built up in more than 35 years of experience as a medical doctor. Both tourists and locals feel great with her for the simple reasons that she has the qualities of a great doctor: communicative, skilled, empathetic and trustworthy. Unique is the fact that you can walk into this clinic without an appointment and that the Palm Beach Service Pharmacy she partners up with is literally next door. When you feel sick during vacation you want this out of your system as soon as possible and a convenient solution is forehanded. Don't look any further, help is just around the corner. A one-stop-shopping solution.

Top 5 Vacation Illnesses

The most common reasons why patients walk into her clinic sound very familiar. Doctor Beke: "When on vacation you are excited so you mix meals, eat without control and combine this with more alcohol than usual resulting in an upset stomach. Digestion issues occur and when on a diet you can count on it that you will get sick." Throwing up, diarrhea, dehydration will be a bummer on your vacation. "Second occasion why people step in here is medication. They feel sick because they forgot to take their medicines with them or simply think they don't need it on holiday. But of course the body does not work differently only because you are in another place." This happens especially with patients of higher age and many times with blood pressure medication and psychological medicines, the doctor explains. "As we have the pharmacy next door we can solve this in most cases very quick so you will soon feel better again. Then of course we have the allergies, force majeure but still a hassle. Too much sun bathing is another thing causing dehydration and sun burns."

"I strongly advise to buy a new sunblock cream every vacation. Our pharmacy sells the most advanced ones that is environmental friendly, so not damaging the sea life." As fifth most common reason for patients to come see the doctor she mentions exhaustion. "You want to do everything in a short time and by the end of the day the body is exhausted, giving a reversed reaction. Take it easy please, moderate or like we say here: chill." Besides this top 5 the doctor is visited by patients with chronic diseases that often contact her in advance to travelling.

The Little Ones

With regards to children Dr. Beke advises parents to keep an extra eye on them during vacation. "They are excited, cannot hold control, play all day in the sand and pool and eat a lot of different things. But they are sensitive and you do not want your loved ones waking up in the middle of the night vomiting or with diarrhea."

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Asthmatic children should be taken care of extra as the sun, water and strong draft on the island can complicate their condition. "Protect the heads of your kids, we are close to the equator and the sun rays are more rectangular thus stronger. The heat and humidity can exhaust the little bodies easily. Let them play under an umbrella preferably and keep drinking water. At the pharmacy you can buy ear plugs to prevent ear infections." The doctor stresses that there is no doubt about drinking tap water. "The water of Aruba is the best. You can drink that without problems. It is excellent. In the States it is prepared with a lot of chemicals, but here it's clean."

Locals

Doctor Beke has a loyal local patient pool staying with her mainly because of the experience and trust. "They tell me I really listen to them, they feel attended and respected. A patient is a human being, not a casus, unfortunately many times doctors are skilled in the medical part but not on the social terrain." The latter is more and more important, especially with certain groups like teenage girls. "They prefer a female doctor to treat typical woman issues. The desire is attention and to feel at ease." Patients step in for second opinions too. "Everybody has the right to do that, it is their body and their money."

Pharmacy Convenience

After you pick up your prescription at Dr. Beke's practice, you can go to the Palm Beach Service Pharmacy, right next door. The collaboration between these two results in a quick, efficient and quality service. It's just what you need when you feel the only thing you want is healing. Lennert van der Poel, general manager of the pharmacy, which is part of a group of 5 pharmacies (Botica di Servicio), points out that convenience is not their only unique asset. "We carry a wide variety of medicines from the US, but most of the medicines come from the EU. The prices in the EU are considerably lower than in the U.S." All medicines are European registered with the same standard as U.S. products. "The law in the States allows visitors to get prescribed medicine by a local doctor for up to 6 months, saving them a ton of money.", says van der Poel. Most common medicines requested by visitors are antibiotic, pain killers and anti-allergy medications. However, certain things do not need prescription, such as contact lenses. These don't need a prescription to get them on the island. "We've recently started importing our own 'house brand' of contact lenses called 'Optinova', and the feedback has been amazing", elaborates Van der Poel, "We carry both daily and monthly lenses, which are an ideal substitute if you forget yours when coming on vacation, or even if you would like to take some home, which is why we've seen so many return customers." Naturally we wish you the healthiest, most wonderful vacation of your life on our Happy Island. But In case you are in need of a doctor and a pharmacy, just turn around, walk in and feel welcome to be cured!□



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The Aruba Tourism Authority honor loyal visitors on the island

NOORD — Recently, Kimberley Richardson of the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Aruba's loyal and friendly visitors as Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. The Distinguished Visitor certificate is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba 10 years or more consecutively.

The honorees were Gene and Carla Sue Nordgren from Cincinnati, U.S.A!

This lovely couple stated that they love the island very much, especially for the year-round sunny weather, blue waters and sandy beaches, delicious variety of foods and Aruba's warm and friendly people.

Ms. Richardson together with the representatives of the Caribbean Palm Village Resort presented the certificate to the honorees, and also handed over some presents, thanking them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination and as their home away from home. □





Walk the Perfect Mall

ORANJESTAD — Aruba is hot in every sense of the word, but not just in temperature. When the sun is at its highest, I prefer to beat the heat and escape to a comfy environment. The beach is a great option, but I have a need to shop, have a coffee, walk around, stop, try on that cute hat or buy these awesome shoes. After all of that, I crave for a cool glass of wine and a light snack just before I meet my friend for dinner. Yes, the perfect day!

Imagine doing all of this, all at one place.

Where?

The perfect mall...



Whether you're local or visitor, you just have to go to Renaissance Mall in Downtown Oranjestad. You ask why?

Look, malls are everywhere.

But according to Quora there are three main reasons why a mall is attractive. First reason: Popular brands. Louis Vuitton, Gucci, Rolex, Prada, Dolce & Gabbana, Cartier, Chopard, CH Carolina Herrera, Michael Kors, Kate Spade are only some of the over 30 stores in this one-stop shopping Valhalla. Renaissance Mall has them all.

The second reason Quora states: recreation and comfort. Well, Renaissance Mall is covered, cool, offers clean public restrooms, is housed in an elegant building with a classy interior and invites guest to play a round at the casino upstairs. Besides that, you're in midtown, the heart of Oranjestad.

The third reason that brings the customer in: Food! Of course, we need to fuel our inner body too and Renaissance has that ready for you. Starbucks, or a super lunch at Aquarius Restaurant and finish it all off with dinner at L.G. Smith's Steak & Chop House.

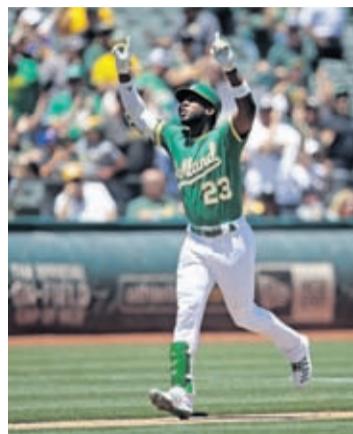
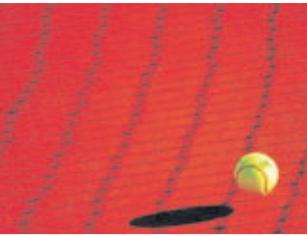
It's just an idea for you, but I do it.

The Sport

Besides the offerings of the mall, I like the walking too. It is a well-known fact that Dutchies –like me- have a love affair with walking and as a matter of fact Mall Walking is a sport in the United States. Yes, it may sound crazy, but people actually walk and/or jog inside malls for exercise. In my opinion a great health boost in combination with shopping. And it's even better at Renaissance Mall, where you are out of the sun and have restrooms available as well as comfy seats and benches to take a moment of rest. I've got my hat and my new pair of shoes. I drank my wine and had a wonderful steak dinner and now, I will wander off to that sweet, soft suite at the Renaissance Hotel.

Try My Dream and... Sleep Tight □

SPORTS



Oakland Athletics' Jurickson Profar celebrates after hitting a two run home run off Seattle Mariners' Erik Swanson in the second inning of a baseball game Wednesday, July 17, 2019, in Oakland, Calif.

Associated Press

A's hit 6 HRs to back Bailey in 10-2 win over Mariners

By The Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Homer Bailey shook off a rocky start to go six innings in his Oakland debut and Mark Canha and Jurickson Profar each homered twice in a win over Seattle. Chad Pinder and Ramón Laureano also went deep as the A's matched their season high with six home runs. They lost Gold Glove third baseman Matt Chapman to an ankle injury after two innings.

Oakland has won six straight and 12 of 14. The A's have homered in a season-high 17 consecutive games.

Tim Beckham had two hits for Seattle. The Mariners have lost six straight.

Bailey (8-6) allowed seven hits and two runs for his fourth consecutive win and first since being acquired from Kansas City over the weekend. He struck out six and didn't walk a batter.

Tommy Milone (1-4) allowed five runs in 4 1/3 innings.

Continued on Page 20

HOMEBOY



An emotional return to Irish soil for British Open

Northern Ireland's Graeme McDowell reacts after putting on the 1st green during the first round of the British Open Golf Championships at Royal Portrush in Northern Ireland, Thursday, July 18, 2019.

Associated Press
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British Open back at Royal Portrush and puts on quite a show



JB Holmes of the US plays off the 5th tee during the first round of the British Open Golf Championships at Royal Portrush in Northern Ireland, Thursday, July 18, 2019.

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

PORTRUSH, Northern Ireland

(AP)—An emotional opening shot by Darren Clarke. A shocking one by Rory McIlroy.

Tiger Woods had his worst score to start a British Open. Brooks Koepka quickly got into contention again.

Emiliano Grillo made a 1. David Duval made a 14.

The Open returned to Royal Portrush after a 68-year absence and made up for lost time with an unusual amount of theater Thursday. When more than 15 hours of golf before a robust, sellout crowd finally ended, J.B. Holmes was atop the leaderboard at a major for the first time in 11 years.

Even that might have been fitting. The big hitter from a small town in Kentucky had his first taste of links golf at Royal Portrush during a college trip, and he recalled how the caddies kept giving him the wrong lines off the tee because they had never seen anyone hit it that far.

Holmes drove the downwind 374-yard fifth hole to 12 feet for a two-putt birdie, and he ended with

a 5-iron into the wind to 15 feet for a final birdie and a 5-under 66.

"You just have to accept the conditions over here and not get too greedy," Holmes said.

He had a one-shot lead over Shane Lowry of Ireland, who didn't have the level of expectations or the connection to Royal Portrush like McIlroy, Clarke or native son Graeme McDowell, all of whom grew up in Northern Ireland and never imagined golf's oldest championship returning to their tiny country.

"I feel like for me I can come here a little more under the radar than the other guys," Lowry said.

That wasn't the case for McIlroy.

He was the betting favorite who as a 16-year-old stunned Irish golf with a 61 to set the course record at Royal Portrush in the North of Ireland Amateur. The throaty cheers went silent when his tee shot went left and out of bounds. He went into a bush and had to take a penalty to take it out, and he walked off the first green with a quadruple-bogey 8. McIlroy finished with a triple bogey for a 79.

"I'm going to go back and see my family, see my friends, and hopefully they don't think any less of me after a performance like that today," McIlroy said. "And I'll dust myself off and come back out tomorrow and try to do better." Woods didn't seem quite as optimistic.

That magical Masters victory in April is quickly turning into a memory as Woods struggles to find the balance between playing and making sure his back holds up. He has played only 10 rounds since Augusta National, and this was one to forget. Woods three-putted for bogey on No. 5, bladed a chip on No. 6 for a double bogey and stretched his arms in mock triumph when he finally made a birdie — his only birdie — on No. 15.

He ended with another bogey for a 78, matching his third-worst score in a major. "Playing at this elite level is a completely different deal," Woods said. "You've got to be spot on. These guys are too good. There are too many guys that are playing well and I'm just not one of them." The Dunluce Links held up beautifully in such lush conditions, and so did

Associated Press

the reputation of Northern Ireland's ever-changing coastal weather. There was a blue sky and dark clouds, a strong breeze and a stiff wind, shadows and showers, all within an hour's time. "I took on and put off my rain gear probably at least nine times in nine holes," Matt Kuchar said.

Even so, the scoring was good, without anyone being great.

The large group at 68 included Koepka, who has won three of the last six majors and looked very much capable of adding the third leg of the Grand Slam. Koepka was tied for the lead at one point until he made his lone bogey on the 17th hole. He has been runner-up twice and won the PGA Championship this year. He started out the final major in a tie for third after the first round.

As usual, Koepka keeps it simple, and it helps to have Ricky Elliott as his caddie. Elliott grew up at Portrush and knows the course as well as anyone.

"It's easy when he's just standing on the tee telling you to hit it in this spot and I just listen to him," Koepka said. "I don't have to think

much. I don't have to do anything. I figure out where the miss is and where I'm trying to put it and then go from there."

Jon Rahm, a two-time Irish Open winner at nearby Portstewart and in the south at Lahinch two weeks ago, joined Holmes and Webb Simpson as the only players to reach 5 under at any point during the day. The Spaniard was particularly sharp from around the greens, controlling chips and putts beautifully. He ran out of luck late, however, missing a 5-foot par putt on the 16th and dropping another shot on the 18th. Even so, 68 was his best score in his fourth British Open.

Duval had hit his worst score in any tournament — 91 — mainly from the jolt of a bad swing on a tough hole, compounded by an oversight. He never found two of his own tee shots at the par-5 seventh, hit the wrong ball in the process and with all the penalty shots had a 14, the second-highest score in 159 years of the British Open.

"Just one of those God-awful nightmare scenarios that happened today," Duval said. "And I happened to be on the end of it."

Forty-one players broke par, and 15 of them were within three shots of the lead. Clarke turned and applauded the grandstand that filled up before his opening tee shot at 6:35 a.m., and he treated everyone else to three birdies through five holes. He wound up with a 71. McDowell wiped a tear from his eye before he teed off, and he was one shot off the early lead until a triple bogey at the last hole sent him to a 73.

McIlroy's only hope was to treat the crowd to four days, a daunting task when only five players in the 156-man field posted a worse score. He said he wasn't the center of attention, and he was right. That belonged to Royal Portrush and the people who filled the links to see championship golf. They were treated to quite the show. □

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No-hit bid fails, Padres settle for 3-2 win over Miami

By The Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — Rookie right-hander Chris Paddack took a no-hitter into the eighth inning and two relievers got the final four outs to complete a three-hitter and help the San Diego Padres beat the Miami Marlins 3-2 Wednesday night.

The Padres, who played their first game in 1969, are the only major league team never to have thrown a no-hitter.

After Starlin Castro homered leading off the eighth, Paddack (6-4) retired the next two batters and then departed. He struck out eight, walked one, threw 94 pitches and lowered his ERA to 2.70.

Austin Hedges hit a two-run homer, his seventh, against Trevor Richards (3-11) to help San Diego break a four-game losing streak.

Paddack retired the first 15 batters before Cesar Puello reached on a throwing error by shortstop Fernando Tatis Jr. Pinch hitter Yadiel Rivera walked with two out in the sixth and was the only other baserunner against Paddack.

Kirby Yates pitched around back-to-back throwing errors to start the ninth for his 31st save. Castro's two-out RBI single made it 3-2 before Yates struck out Curtis Granderson with two on for the win.

GIANTS 11, ROCKIES 8

DENVER (AP) — Donovan Solano had four hits, including a tie-breaking home run leading off the sixth inning, and San Francisco completed a four-game series sweep in Colorado for the first time in nearly



San Diego Padres' Chris Paddack pitches during the sixth inning of the team's baseball game against the Miami Marlins, Wednesday, July 17, 2019, in Miami.

Associated Press

eight years.

Pablo Sandoval sparked a three-run first inning with a two-run double and Stephen Vogt also homered for the surging Giants, who have won five straight and 12 of 14. Brandon Belt had an RBI single among his three hits.

Trevor Story and Ryan McMahon homered for the Rockies, losers of four straight and 11 of their last 13.

It was the first-four game sweep by the Giants in Colorado since Sept. 15-18, 2011.

Jon Gray (9-7) went 5 1/3 innings and allowed 11 hits and six runs. He walked three and struck out three in the loss.

Derek Holland (2-4) picked up the win with 1 2/3 innings of scoreless relief.

CARDINALS 6, PIRATES 5

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Paul Goldschmidt hit a go-ahead, three-run homer in the seventh inning and St. Louis rallied to deal Pittsburgh its fifth loss in six games.

John Brebbia (3-3) struck out four in two perfect innings. Carlos Martínez picked up his sixth save in eight chances.

Tyler O'Neill also homered for the Cardinals, who won two of three from the Pirates.

Pirates starter Chris Archer allowed three runs and five hits in six innings. Archer had a pair of hits, including an RBI single in a three-run fourth, after starting the season 1 for 25 at the plate.

BREWERS 5, BRAVES 4

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Josh Hader struck out Ozzie Albies with two outs and the

tying run on third in the ninth to preserve the Milwaukee's win over Atlanta. Christian Yelich hit his 34th homer of the season. It was Yelich's third home run in four games.

The Brewers got a two-run homer from Manny Piña's in the second. Josh Donaldson hit a two-run shot for the Braves.

Milwaukee starter Chase Anderson (5-2) gave up only one hit, a double to Brian McCann in the second inning, in 5 2/3 innings. He walked three and struck out three. Hader earned his 21st save.

Dallas Keuchel (3-3) allowed five runs, four earned, in 5 2/3 innings.

CUBS 5, REDS 2

CHICAGO (AP) — Yu Darvish tossed six innings of two-hit, shutout ball to final-

ly earn his first win at Wrigley Field in Chicago's win over Cincinnati.

Kris Bryant and Addison Russell homered for the only hits off Sonny Gray (5-6) as Chicago won for the fifth time in six games.

Jason Heyward drove in two insurance runs with a double as the NL Central leaders took two of three from the Reds to win just their second series since sweeping St. Louis on June 7-9.

Darvish (3-4) also won for the first time anywhere since April 27 at Arizona as he struck out seven, walked none and hit two batters. The right-hander had 12 no-decisions and a loss in his previous 13 starts.

Craig Kimbrel pitched a perfect ninth for his fourth save in five chances.

DODGERS 7, PHILLIES 2

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Six Dodgers pitchers combined on a two-hitter spanning a 2 hour, 37 minute rain delay, and Los Angeles completed a win over Philadelphia early Thursday morning.

David Freese and Justin Turner homered, and A.J. Pollock and Kiké Hernandez also drove in runs for the NL-West leading Dodgers, who improved their MLB-best record to 64-34 while remaining 14 games in front of Arizona.

The Phillies didn't register a hit until Scott Kingery's bloop single to center in the sixth. Adam Haseley singled with one out in the ninth.

Pedro Baez (4-2) pitched 1 2/3 innings and picked up the win. □



New York Mets pitcher Jason Vargas throws against the Minnesota Twins during the first inning of a baseball game Wednesday, July 17, 2019, in Minneapolis.

Associated Press

Continued from Page 17

METS 14, TWINS 4

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Dominic Smith put New York ahead with a pinch-hit, three-run homer in the seventh inning, and Pete Alonso added a 474-foot shot halfway up the third deck as Minnesota lost a

third straight game for the first time this season.

Amed Rosario went 4 for 4 with a home run and three RBIs for the Mets, who overcame three one-run deficits, set a 2019 high for runs and matched a season best with their fourth consecutive victory.

Reliever Trevor May (3-3) took the loss.

Nelson Cruz and Mitch Garver went deep for the Twins.

The Mets improved to 5-0 at Target Field, where they won three games in 2013.

INDIANS 7, TIGERS 2

CLEVELAND (AP) — Mike Clevinger matched his career high with 12 strikeouts in six innings, Oscar Mercado drove in two runs and Cleveland beat Detroit.

Clevinger (3-2) struck out the side in the first two inning. He was lifted after 100 pitches and allowing one run on six hits in his third double-digit strikeout performance of the season. Nick Wittgren worked the final 1 2/3 innings to pick up his second save.

Mercado gave Cleveland a 2-0 lead in the third with a double that scored Mike Freeman and Tyler Naquin.

Nicholas Castellanos hit

a solo homer and Jeimer Candelario added an RBI single for Detroit.

Spencer Turnbull (3-9) took the loss.

RED SOX 5, BLUE JAYS 4

BOSTON (AP) — Rafael Devers hit a solo homer and drove in four runs, Eduardo Rodríguez pitched effectively into the seventh inning and Boston sent Toronto's Aaron Sanchez to his 13th straight loss.

Devers also had a two-run double and RBI single, Brock Holt added a run-scoring hit — one of his three singles — for the Red Sox, who had dropped three of four since a five-game winning streak.

Teoscar Hernández hit two solo homers over the Green Monster and Lourdes Gurriel Jr. had one for the Blue Jays, who have lost seven of 10.

Rodríguez (11-4) held the Blue Jays to two runs on

three hits, striking out four and walking three.

Once dominant, right-hander Sanchez (3-14) had his miserable season continue. He gave up four runs and eight hits in five innings and his ERA rose to 6.26; while he remained winless in his last 15 starts.

DIAMONDBACKS 19, RANGERS 4

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Eduardo Escobar homered twice and the Arizona tied a franchise record for a nine-inning game with 21 hits while thumping Texas.

The 19 runs were Arizona's most since setting a franchise record with 20 against the San Diego Padres last July.

Escobar's first homer sparked a seven-run first inning against right-handed starter Jesse Chavez (3-5), who got just two outs.

The switch-hitting Escobar added a three-run homer batting right-handed against Kyle Bird in the sixth and had five RBIs. Kevin Cron, Jarrod Dyson and Carson Kelly also homered for Arizona.

Robbie Ray (8-6) and two relievers cruised through the blowout.

The 19 runs were the most allowed by Texas this season.

ORIOLES 9, NATIONALS 2

BALTIMORE (AP) — Trey Mancini hit two home runs and Baltimore pummeled Washington's ineffective bullpen to earn a split in the two-game interleague series.

The defeat — only the fourth in 17 games for the Nationals — kept them 6 1/2 games behind the first-place Braves in the NL East. Adam Eaton drove in both runs for the Nationals, who suffered their most lopsided loss since June 15 (10-3 against Arizona).

Wander Suero (2-5) faced five batters and retired only one of them. Anthony Santander and Chris Davis hit RBI singles, and Rio Ruiz delivered a sacrifice fly off Tony Sipp before Javy Guerra finally quelled the uprising.

Gabriel Ynoa (1-6) pitched 4 1/3 innings of two-hit relief to earn his first win since Sept. 21, 2017. Mychal Givens picked up his eighth save. □

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Located at Riu Antillas as formerly The Westin Resort.



In this May 18, 2015 file photo home plate umpire Mike DiMuro is seen during the second inning of an interleague baseball game between the Detroit Tigers and the Milwaukee Brewers in Detroit.

Associated Press

Mike DiMuro retires, Chad Whitson becomes fulltime MLB ump

NEW YORK (AP) — Mike DiMuro, among two father-son duos to work home plate in a major league no-hitter, is retiring after two decades as an umpire. He is being replaced on the big league staff by Chad Whitson, the commissioner's office said Thursday. The 51-year-old DiMuro made his major league debut at second base in Boston's game at Kansas City on July 31, 1997, and became a full-time member of the big league staff in 1999. Bothered by back problems in recent years, he has not worked since he was at second for Miami's game at Washington on July 8 last year.

DiMuro called balls and strikes for the perfect game for Philadelphia's Roy Halladay against Florida on May 29, 2010. DiMuro's father, Lou, was an American League umpire from 1963-82 and worked the plate for a no-hitter by Baltimore's Jim Palmer against Oakland on Aug. 13, 1969. Mike DiMuro worked the Division Series in 2000, '10 and '13, and he was at third base for the 2005 All-Star Game at Detroit. The only other father-son duo to work the plate for no-hitters was Harry and Hunter Wendelstedt. In addition, Brian and grandfather Ed Runge were behind the plate for no-hitters. He became the first American umpire in the Japanese major leagues when he officiated in the Central League in 1997, but

the firm style of U.S. umpires caused criticism. He ejected Chunichi's Yasuaki Taiho from a game that June, and the Dragons slugger hit DiMuro on the chest. DiMuro met with league officials and then quit. In the time before video review, DiMuro had an embarrassing moment at Yankee Stadium on June 26, 2012, when he was fooled by New York left fielder Dewayne Wise, who flipped into the stands while trying to Jack Hannahan's foul drive and came up with his glove closed. DiMuro called Hannahan out, not realizing Wise did not catch the ball as he went over the low wall with two outs and a runner on third in the seventh inning of a game the Yankees won 6-4.

"I went out on the ball and saw the ball into his glove in the stands. He disappeared into the stands and I believed that the ball was in his glove," DiMuro said. "In hindsight, I should have asked him to show me the ball since he fell into the stands and out of my line of vision." DiMuro's twin brother, Ray, was an AL substitute umpire from 1996-99. Mike DiMuro and Marvin Hudson in 2004 founded the Blue For Kids charitable organization, now part of Umps Care.

The 37-year-old Whitson worked big league spring training starting in 2012, made his debut on May 15, 2014, and has worked 399 regular-season games. □



Toronto FC midfielder Richie Laryea (22) takes a rough tackle from New York Red Bulls defender Kemar Lawrence during the first half of an MLS soccer match Wednesday, July 17, 2019, in Toronto.

Associated Press

Martínez scores twice, Atlanta United beats Houston 5-0

By The Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Josef Martínez scored his 14th and 15th goals of the season and Atlanta United beat the 10-man Houston Dynamo 5-0 on Wednesday night. Atlanta (10-8-3) snapped a three-game winless run. Houston (8-9-3) has just one win on the road this season.

Atlanta scored two minutes apart to take a 2-0 lead in the 29th minute. Darlington Nagbe scored his first goal for Atlanta by redirecting Julian Gressel's cross at the penalty spot. Brandon Vázquez added his second goal of the year by heading in a deflected pass.

Martínez made it 3-0 in the 60th, netting a goal in his sixth straight game. He added another in the 79th.

Gressel capped the scoring in the 88th.

Houston played a man down nearly the entire match after Alberth Elis was given a second yellow card for contact with a referee.

REVOLUTION 4, WHITECAPS 0

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP) — Diego Fagundez, Carles Gil and Teal Bunbury scored during a late eight-minute stretch in New England's victory over Vancouver. New England (7-8-6) extended its undefeated streak to nine matches — the club's longest stretch without a defeat since the start of the 2015 season. Vancouver (4-10-8) fell for the fourth consecutive game.

Gustavo Bou highlighted the first half with a one-touch finish of a corner kick in his MLS debut. Fagundez made it 2-0 in the 82nd minute by heading home Cristian Penilla's cross for his first goal of the season. It moved him into a tie for second on New England's career goals list. Gil scored four minutes, and Bunbury completed the rout with his seventh goal in eight games.

TORONTO FC 3, RED BULLS 1

TORONTO (AP) — Jozy Altidore, Alejandro Pozuelo and Ashtone Morgan scored to help Toronto FC beat New York.

Altidore opened the scoring in the sixth minute, back-heeling Tsubasa Endoh's cross low off the goalpost. He has seven goals in 11 games this season. Pozuelo made it 2-0 from the penalty spot in the 26th minute after Kemar Lawrence brought down Richie Laryea.

Tom Barlow scored for New York in the 63rd minute, and Morgan capped the scoring in the 72nd with his second goal in 123 regular-season games. Toronto (8-8-5) is 3-1-1 in its last five. New York dropped to 9-8-4.

CREW 2, FIRE 2, TIE

BRIDGEVIEW, Ill. (AP) — Romario Williams scored on a header in the 90th minute, shortly after entering as a second-half substitute, and Columbus tied Chicago. Columbus (5-14-3) snapped a five-game losing streak, but has just one win in its last 16 matches.

Djordje Mihailovic opened the scoring for Chicago (5-9-8) in the 28th minute, settling a pass with his chest and one-touching it past goalkeeper Joe Bendik. C.J. Sapong gave Chicago a 2-1 lead in the 63rd when a deflected pass fell to his feet for a close-range shot between the legs of Bendik. Gyasi Zardes tied it at 1 in the 47th for Columbus with a redirection of Luis Argudo's pass along the 6-yard box. □



Paula Creamer of California, left, high-fives her playing partner Morgan Pressel of Florida, right, as they play in the second round of the Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational golf tournament on Thursday, July 18, 2019 at Midland Country Club in Midland, Mich.

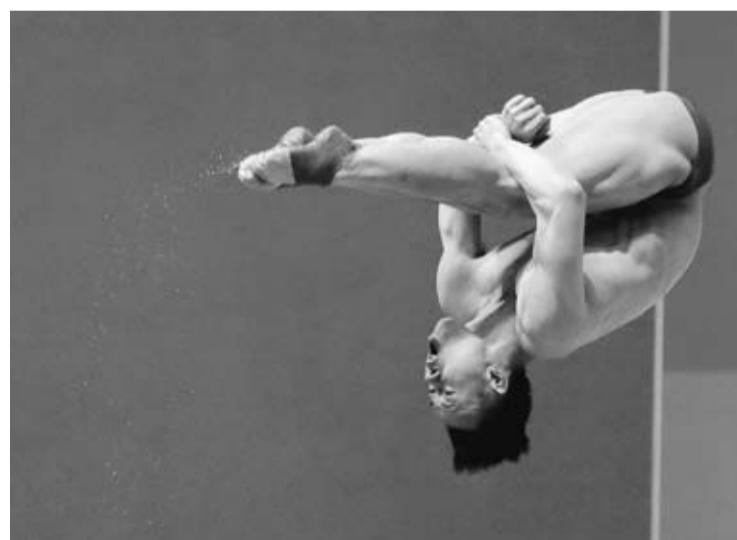
Associated Press

Pressel, Creamer tied for lead in LPGA Tour team event

MIDLAND, Mich. (AP) — Morgan Pressel and Paula Creamer shot a best-ball 6-under 64 on Thursday for a share of the second-round lead in the Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational, the LPGA Tour's first-year team event. Stephanie Meadow and Giulia Molinaro had a 61, and Frenchwomen Celine Boutier and Karine Icher shot 62 to match Pressel and Creamer at 10-under 130 at Midland Country Club. The teams will play alternate shot Friday and close Saturday with a best-ball round. "You have two balls in play, you can play much more aggressively," Pressel said. "I know I certainly could play aggres-

sively knowing my partner had my back the whole way around." Trying to get into the U.S. Solheim Cup mix, Pressel and Creamer birdied six of the last eight holes on their opening nine — the course's back nine — then parred the last nine. "Morgan played awesome on the back nine, which was our front nine," Creamer said. "I couldn't really get anything going on this side. But we've got two more days left so we're not in bad position by any means. It wasn't our 'A'-game today, but still very pleased with where we're sitting." Meadow, from Northern Ireland, and Molinaro, from Italy, had eight

birdies in a 10-hole stretch, making five straight on Nos. 5-9. "We talked about it and said, 'We've just got to time it right,'" Meadow said. "There's something about when your partner's in a little bit of trouble we kind of pick up the pace and try to make birdie and kind of have their back. I think that's what we did really well today." Boutier and Icher birdied four of the five and closed with three straight birdies. "Our games complement each other really well," Boutier said. "When I was struggling a bit, she was there to save the team, and the opposite, so it was pretty good." □



China's Xie Siyi performs his routine in the men's 3m springboard diving final at the World Swimming Championships in Gwangju, South Korea, Thursday, July 18, 2019.

Associated Press

Xie wins 3-meter springboard gold after Laugher falters

GWANGJU, South Korea (AP) — Defending champion Xie Siyi of China won the men's 3-meter springboard final Thursday after Jack Laugher of Britain faltered in his last dive at the world swimming championships. It extended China's perfect run at the championships to 10 gold medals in 10 diving events.

Laugher led all the way until he only scored 30.6 points in his sixth dive, and had to

FINA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS GW

제18회 2019 광주 FINA 세계수영선수권



Members of the gold medal-winning team from Germany stand with their medals after the 5km mixed relay open water swim at the World Swimming Championships in Yeosu, South Korea, Thursday, July 18, 2019.

Associated Press

Germany wins world open-water relay, Italy 2nd and U.S. 3rd

GWANGJU, South Korea

(AP) — Germany won the mixed 5-kilometer open water team relay at the world swimming championships in a close finish over Italy and the United States on Thursday.

The German quartet of Lea Boy, Sarah Kohler, Soeren Meissner and Rob Muffels finished in a time of 53 minutes, 58.70 seconds.

Italy, with Rachele Bruni, Giulia Gabbielleschi, Domenico Acerenza and Gregorio Paltrinieri, was two-tenths of a second behind in a time of 53.58.90. Haley Anderson, Jordan Wiliovsky, Ashley Twichell and Michael Brinegar made up the American team which finished just three-tenths of a second behind Germany to take bronze in 53:59.00.

There are two males and two females on each team who swim 1.25 kilometers each, but the order in which they swim is up to the individual country.

The German team, anchored by Muffels, was disadvantaged by a yellow card issued to Boy in the leadoff leg.

A second yellow card would have resulted in disqualification, so each of the German swimmers needed to be careful of their tactics for the rest of the race.

"I think each of us did a really good job, it was a perfect strategy," Muffels said of the decision to lead off with two female swimmers. "The conditions were quite good with some little waves, and they were not too big or challenging." □

settle for bronze with 504.55 points.

Xie scored 102.60 points in his last dive for a total of 545.45. Cao Yuan of China finished second with 517.85 points.

"I looked at the scoreboard after the third round and then I focused on myself," Xie said. "I did not watch Jack's last dive but I comforted him before the awarding ceremony." Laugher said he simply

made a mistake in his last dive. "I hit the wall with my right fist after I saw the results," Laugher said.

"When you could potentially make history and do such a good performance and then you make the mistake, I was really angry." Alexandre Despatie of Canada was the last non-Chinese diver to win gold in the 3-meter springboard event at the 2005 worlds in Montreal. □

Dennis quits Tour in bizarre way, Yates wins in Pyrenees

BAGNERES-DE-BIGORRE, France (AP) — In 116 years of racing at the Tour de France, riders have done all sorts of bizarre things, from jumping on trains to fighting with fans at mountain stops.

Rarely have they just vanished in the middle of a stage like Rohan Dennis did on Thursday during the first Pyrenean stage.

For a couple of hours on an otherwise uneventful day in the mountains, nobody was able to say where the time trial world champion had gone. His Bahrain-Merida team even sent an alarming message out on social networks, saying all it cared about was "the welfare" of Dennis after Tour organizers announced he had pulled out of the race.

The Australian ultimately resurfaced at the finish line in Bagnères-de-Bigorre, where British rider Simon Yates, the reigning Spanish Vuelta champion, posted his first stage win after a long breakaway that did not shuffle the overall standings.

Dennis was spotted near the Bahrain-Merida team bus after the stage, but did not make any comment about his decision to pull out.

"We are also confused," Bahrain-Merida team director Gorazd Stangelj said. "It was his decision today to stop at the feed zone. We

tried to speak with him, he said 'I just don't want to talk,' and abandoned the race."

Dennis quit with about 80 kilometers left before the two big climbs in Stage 12, prompting Bahrain-Merida to open an investigation. According to the French TV station broadcasting the race, Dennis had an argument with officials in the team car.

Stangelj said Dennis' condition was good enough to perform, adding he was not aware of any kind of argument that could have triggered the rider's decision.

Dennis's withdrawal was even more surprising as it came a day before Friday's short time trial in Pau, where he would have been an obvious favorite alongside defending Tour champion Geraint Thomas given his pedigree in the race against the clock.

Stangelj said he was not aware of any complaint from Dennis in regards with his time trial equipment and also dismissed suppositions that Dennis could have been frustrated with his role in the team. Bahrain-Merida's main goal at the Tour this year was to fulfill former Tour champion Vincenzo Nibali's ambition to fight for a podium finish.

"I never asked him to bring the water bottles in the race," Stangelj said. "Ac-



Britain's Simon Yates, center, surrounded by Spain's Pello Bilbao Lopez De Armentia, right, and Austria's Gregor Mühlberger, celebrates as he crosses the finish line to win the twelfth stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 209.5 kilometers (130 miles) with start in Toulouse and finish in Bagnères-de-Bigorre, France, Thursday, July 18, 2019.

tually, I even told him yesterday and today that he should save energy for the time trial."

When asked if Dennis had been difficult to work with before, Stangelj said "it's difficult to answer this question."

"But I never have hard discussions with him," he insisted. "We always found a solution when it was needed." Stangelj explained that after Dennis stopped at the feed zone, he was not immediately able to reach out to him because he had already passed that point on the route and could

not turn back with his car. He finally managed to get his rider on the phone after another car from the team arrived next to him.

Dennis' extraordinary withdrawal was the talk of the day but did not eclipse Yates' maiden win at the Tour.

The British rider launched a counterattack behind a group of fugitives in a technical downhill and was joined at the front by Gregor Mühlberger and Pello Bilbao. The trio worked well together until the final sprint shaped up 200 meters from the finish

line in Bagnères-de-Bigorre. Yates launched the sprint, was first into the last turn and held off Bilbao for the victory.

"I wasn't very confident in beating them," said Yates. "I didn't know how fast these two riders were but my sport director told me to take the last corner in first position and I'm glad it worked out well. To have a stage at all three Grand Tours makes me very proud."

Yates is working in support of his brother Adam at the three-week race and had kept a low profile until now. □

Froome confirmed 2011 Vuelta winner due to Cobo doping case

AIGLE, Switzerland (AP) —

Chris Froome has become the 2011 Spanish Vuelta winner because of Juan Jose Cobo's disqualification for blood doping. Cobo did not meet a deadline to challenge his three-year ban at the Court of Arbitration for Sport, the International Cycling Union said on Thursday.

The UCI said Cobo's suspension announced last month is confirmed, and he is stripped of results at the 2009 world champion-

ships and Vuelta, and the 2011 Vuelta which he won. Froome was runner-up eight years ago and becomes the winner of his first Grand Tour title, and seventh overall.

"Better late than never!" Froome wrote on Thursday on his Twitter account. "The 2011 @lavuelta holds some very special memories for me."

Froome also becomes the first British winner of any of the major stage races — the Giro d'Italia, Tour de

France, or Vuelta. That honor was held by his former Sky teammate Bradley Wiggins, the 2012 Tour winner who rises from third to be runner-up at the 2011 Vuelta.

The 38-year-old Cobo is retired from racing. His doping ban was announced days after Froome suffered season-ending injuries crashing at the Dauphine race in France.

Froome's seventh Grand Tour lifted him to fourth overall, tied with Fausto



In this Sunday, Sept. 11, 2011 file photo, Geox-TMC team member Juan Cobo, center, celebrates on the podium after winning the Spanish Vuelta cycling race with second placed Sky Procycling rider Chris Froome from UK, right, and third placed Sky Procycling rider Bradley Wiggins from UK, right, in Madrid, Spain.

Associated Press

Coppi, Miguel Indurain, Eddy Merckx leads with and Alberto Contador. 11. □

Netflix subscriber drop hints at streaming-service fatigue

By MAE ANDERSON
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — How much is too much for streaming video?

A dramatic slowdown in worldwide growth at Netflix — including the first quarterly drop in its U.S. subscribers since 2011 — is raising questions about just how much are people willing to pay for streaming services. Especially with a host of new ones from Disney, Apple and others on their way.

A recent price increase seems to have spooked Netflix subscribers. The company lost 126,000 subscribers in the U.S., less than 1% of its 60.1 million paid U.S. subscriptions, during the April-June period. Its most popular plan rose from \$11 to \$13 in a U.S. price hike announced in January and rolled out for many subscribers during the second quarter. Worldwide, the service picked up 2.7 million worldwide subscribers, far below Netflix's forecast of 5 million.

"Netflix raising prices prompted people to think about whether they were getting value for money," Wedbush analyst Michael Pachter said.

While people are willing to shell out for several services to meet their streaming needs, he said, they're also willing to cancel if they're not using it enough,



This Jan. 17, 2017, photo, shows Netflix on a tablet, in North Andover, Mass.

just as they would with a gym membership or a subscription to the New Yorker magazine.

Streaming services preparing to compete with Netflix appear to be taking note. Disney Plus, set to debut in November, will already be cheaper than Netflix at \$8 a month, though Disney Plus will also have a smaller video library. Hulu has cut prices to \$6 from \$8 for its main, ad-supported service. Services from Apple, due out this year, and WarnerMedia and NBCUniversal, out in 2020, don't have announced prices yet, although the NBCUniversal

service will be free and ad supported for traditional cable TV subscribers.

Of course, even if these individual services are cheaper than Netflix, it's not clear how many consumers will be willing to pay for.

One way to make a service appealing is not through better prices but through exclusive shows and deep libraries, including shows that Netflix will be losing. Netflix's two most popular shows, "Friends" and "The Office," will be departing in the coming months for rival services.

Group M analyst Brian

Weiser said that for now, other services shouldn't be overly concerned by a weak quarter or two at Netflix. He said streaming content consumption is still growing rapidly, so the overall market has plenty of room for competitors. And the streaming arena is a growth area in the much bigger and more mature entertainment industry.

"I don't think it follows that if Netflix has an underperforming quarter that tells you about others," he said. Some analysts also believe Netflix's trouble is temporary.

Canaccord Genuity ana-

Associated Press

lyst Michael Graham said the subscriber numbers will likely hit the stock in the short term — the stock was down 11% in midday trading Thursday — but overall the company's growth remains on track, particularly overseas.

"We still see a strong content strategy and room to add large numbers of international subscriptions as key strengths going forward," he wrote in a note to investors.

Similarly, Pivotal Research Group analyst Jeffrey Wlodarczak said investors shouldn't make a "mountain out of a molehill," with the most recent quarterly figures.

The spring quarter is typically sluggish for the streaming service, and Netflix acknowledged a weak content slate could have been partly responsible for the drop. It expects to regain some momentum this summer, projecting that it will add 7 million subscribers from July through September. The optimism stems in part from the immense popularity of "Stranger Things," whose third season attracted record viewership after its July 4 release. Netflix has said it welcomes competition. It ended June with 151.6 million worldwide subscribers, far more than a current crop of video streaming rivals that includes Amazon and Hulu. □

Microsoft cloud growth beats expectations



In this May 6, 2019, file photo Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella delivers the keynote address at Build, the company's annual conference for software developers in Seattle.

Associated Press

Microsoft on Thursday reported quarterly profit of

\$13.2 billion, powered in large part by a steadily growing cloud computing business that the company

says now accounts for almost a third of its total revenue. CEO Satya Nadella even said in a call with investors that "our commercial cloud business is the largest in the world," although that's only true if you use Microsoft's unique definition. The company counts its widely-used office software and similar online services as part of its overall cloud business. That's in addition to cloud infrastructure such as data centers and servers, where Amazon is the market leader. Microsoft said it had net income of \$1.71 per share in the fiscal fourth quarter, which ended June 30.

Earnings, adjusted for non-recurring gains, were \$1.37 per share.

The results exceeded Wall Street expectations. The average estimate of 14 analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research was for earnings of \$1.21 per share. The increase in net income was 49% but was affected by a one-time tax benefit of \$2.6 billion from transferring some properties from foreign subsidiaries to the U.S. and Ireland. The software maker also surpassed forecasts by posting revenue of \$33.7 billion in the period, a 12% increase over the same time last year. Eleven analysts surveyed by Zacks

expected \$32.7 billion. The company's fastest-growing segment was what it calls the "intelligent cloud," which includes server products and its Azure cloud computing platform. The segment's revenue was \$11.4 billion, up 19% from a year ago.

Synergy Research Group analyst John Dinsdale says Microsoft is still a long way behind Amazon but well ahead of the rest of the pack as a provider of cloud infrastructure services. Microsoft has been gradually gaining share in that market, rising from 6% in 2016 to 16% in the first quarter of this year, he said. □

Will a summer job burn your financial aid for college?

By RYAN LANE

NerdWallet

Associated Press

Roughly one-third of teenagers have summer jobs, according to the Pew Research Center. Some of these jobs may make you very familiar with the letters "SPF." But every working student should know a different abbreviation to avoid getting burned: EFC. While you may be working to help pay for college, the money you earn could affect the financial aid you receive. Here's how.

INCOME AND FINANCIAL AID

Every student who wants federal financial aid must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA. Colleges use this information to calculate how much a student and their family can pay for school. This is known as the expected family contribution, or EFC.

The EFC considers the income and assets of parents and students. In general, those with more money pay more money — and may not qualify for more desirable aid as a result.

"Typically, students with higher EFCs won't be eligible for need-based money," says Lauren Brantley, an eAdvisor for the College Advising Corps, a nonprofit organization based in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, that



In this June 20, 2019, photo a student walks past a mural in the library at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Va.

works with low-income, first-generation students.

Need-based aid includes Pell Grants, which you don't repay, and subsidized federal loans, whose interest the government pays while you're in school. Schools may also use the FAFSA to determine institutional aid, awarding some scholarships and grants based on financial need.

STUDENT INCOME PROTECTION

Penalizing working students may sound unfair, but annual earnings are excluded

from the financial aid formula — to a point.

For dependent students, "The FAFSA wipes out any income earned at \$6,660 or below," says MorraLee Keller, director of technical assistance for the National College Access Network, a nonprofit organization in Washington, D.C. If you exceed the maximum, the formula counts half the excess earnings.

For example, say you worked at an ice cream shop earning \$10.45 an hour, the median for food

service workers according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. You'd have to work more than 630 hours to hit the income maximum.

That's not likely over the summer, but you could earn more than \$10,600 by working 20 hours a week at that salary for the entire year. In that instance, the FAFSA would ignore \$6,600, and \$2,000 of the remaining \$4,000 would affect your EFC.

It's tough to say how much need-based aid that \$2,000 could cost you — it would

Associated Press

depend on your entire financial picture — but Pell Grant amounts and EFC are directly correlated. Currently, if you attend college full time and have an EFC of \$3,000, you'd qualify for a Pell Grant of \$3,245, provided the school's cost of attendance exceeds \$6,195. If your EFC increased to \$5,000, your grant would decrease to \$1,245. You can estimate this potential effect on your situation with the U.S. Education Department's FAFSA4Caster.

DETAILS TO KNOW

If you make a lot of money, you'll want to understand the school year those earnings affect because the FAFSA uses income information from two years ago.

"For a student who's an incoming freshman, calendar year 2017 is what is being taken into account on their FAFSA," Keller says. This wrinkle means college students close to graduating who land high-paying jobs or internships would likely finish school before that money counts toward their EFC. Work-study jobs also don't count toward the amount of income students can earn. You could make \$3,000 from a work-study job and \$4,000 from a summer job, but only the latter would go into the EFC calculation — keeping you below \$6,660. □

Weak Netflix results send US stocks lower

By DAMIAN J. TROISE

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stocks moved lower in early trading on Wall Street Thursday after Netflix reported a slump in new subscribers and dragged down communications companies.

The streaming video service plunged after subscriber additions fell far below Wall Street forecasts during its April-June period. The communications sector, which also includes Walt Disney and Facebook, had the most severe drop.

Health insurer UnitedHealth Group led health care stocks broadly lower.

IBM rose 2.8% after report-

ing solid financial results and helped lead technology stocks higher.

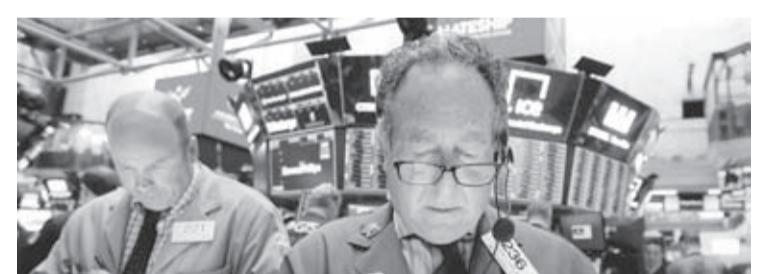
The sector held up the best in the early going. Apple, Nvidia and Applied Materials also made solid gains. Banks led financial stocks higher. BB&T rose 1.9% and SunTrust Banks rose 1.7%. Both reported earn-

ings that easily beat analysts' estimates. Corporate earnings are in full swing and investors have been cautiously assessing results and company statements. Only about 13% of S&P 500 companies have reported according to FactSet, and analysts expect profits to fall 2.4% overall. □

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In this June 19, 2019, file photo trader Steven Kaplan, right, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange.

Associated Press



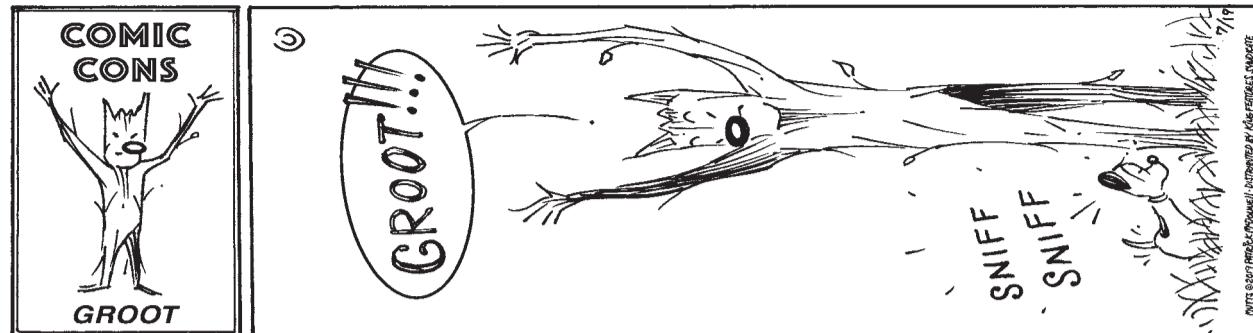
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4	3		5	9			1		6		
			2				1				
6		8					7			4	
5			7					6	9		
	1						4				
8				2							
2		1	3				8	5			

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

2	7	9	1	5	3	4	6	8			
4	6	5	2	8	9	1	7	3			
8	3	1	6	4	7	9	2	5			
9	8	7	5	2	6	3	1	4			
3	4	6	9	7	1	5	8	2			
5	1	2	8	3	4	6	9	7			
1	5	3	7	9	2	8	4	6			
7	9	4	3	6	8	2	5	1			
6	2	8	4	1	5	7	3	9			

Yesterday's puzzle answer

ACROSS

1 Milk producer
4 Licorice color
9 Proficient
13 To boot
14 Uncanny
15 Personal web page
16 Way things fall
17 Lincoln's ___ Address
19 Ring of flowers
20 Steed
21 Has to have
22 Nuts
24 Fathers
25 One encyclopedia from a set
27 Women's accessories
30 Steamed
31 Traffic sign
33 ___ on one's hands; did nothing
35 Dyers' tubs
36 Malt shop orders
37 Supple
38 Gobbled up
39 Domineering
40 Spotless
41 Chaperone
43 Crude
44 ___ down; recline
45 Isle of ___; Italian resort
46 Homes for canaries
49 Dried fruit
51 ___ my brother's keeper?
54 Truthful
56 Fissure
57 Toothpaste container
58 Comedian Kovacs
59 Travails
60 Bother
61 ___ from; talk out of
62 Deli choice

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

7/19/19

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

W	A	D	I	S	A	M	B	G	R	I	M
O	V	E	N	C	R	E	A	M	R	A	C
R	I	C	A	O	S	T	R	A	C	I	Z
D	D	E	U	O	S	L	E	E	D	S	
D	E	U	O	S	L	E	E	D	S		
L	E	A	R	N	R	E	V				
S	C	E	N	T	S	C	A	R	E	S	
L	A	R	V	A	T	H	A	N	K	T	W
A	D	A	Y	L	I	Y	G	S	A	R	I
M	E	T	S	E	N	S	E	M	I	T	S
T	E	H	E	E	P	A	R	I	S	H	
G	A	S	T	O	R	S	O				
S	T	O	O	L	D	A	R	E	N	B	A
C	A	P	I	T	A	S	T	P	A	U	L
A	X	E	S	P	A	T	A	R	M		S
M	I	N	T	E	X	C	E	L	T	Y	P

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39 U.S. state capital
40 ___ of Good Hope
41 Shrewd
42 Male goose
43 Physicist Marie or husband Pierre
44 Daly of "Cagney & Lacey"
45 Lynxes & lions
46 As ___ as a boil
47 Flank

48 Huge Asian desert
49 Orifice
50 Diatribe
51 Race unit
52 "Too Late", Carole King hit
53 Piece of furniture
54 Man's title

Group wants to end protections for seals to deal with sharks

By PHILIP MARCELO

Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — A Massachusetts citizen's group is calling for eliminating federal protections for seals as Cape Cod officials seek ways to protect beachgoers from great white sharks. Peter Howell, a founder of the Seal Action Committee, says the Nantucket-based group wants Congress to amend the federal Marine Mammal Protection Act so that seals and other species can be removed from the law's list of protected animals if their populations have sufficiently rebounded.

"We're not anti-seal. We're not trying to eliminate them. We're just trying to manage them in the interest of the larger ecosystem," he said Wednesday as the group spoke before the Barnstable County Commissioners, which oversees Cape Cod's regional government. "It's inconsistent to protect a species in perpetuity without regard to population size."

The call comes as the region's seal population — estimated in the hundreds of thousands — has been blamed for drawing droves of great white sharks in recent years. Seals are the favored meal for the powerful predators.

Cape Cod had two shark

attacks on humans last summer, including the state's first fatal one in more than 80 years.

But amending the federal law could be a longshot since the idea doesn't appear to have strong support among members of Cape Cod's congressional delegation, said Commission Chair Ronald Bergstrom.

A spokeswoman for Democratic Rep. Bill Keating, who represents Cape Cod, didn't respond to an email seeking comment.

The Marine Mammal Commission and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, which oversee management of seal and sea lion populations, also didn't respond to emails seeking comment.

The Marine Mammal Protection Act also already allows states to assume the responsibility for conservation and management of a species once it reaches its "optimum sustainable population," said Sharon Young, the marine issues field director for the Humane Society of the United States.

States like Washington have taken advantage of that provision to reduce their sea lion populations, but addressing Cape Cod's seals could be more challenging, she said. □

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L.G. Smith Boulevard

Weststraat

Bus terminal

Weststraat

Caya G.F. Belico Cross

Caya G.F.



Nevada: Feds should restudy seismic risk at nuke dump site

By KEN RITTER

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Nevada's governor and congressional delegation are pointing to earthquakes this month in the California desert and calling for the U.S. Energy Department to look again at seismic risks of burying the nation's most radioactive nuclear waste at a site in the Mojave Desert.

In a letter made public Wednesday, Democratic Gov. Steve Sisolak told Energy Secretary Rick Perry that 6.4 and 7.1 magnitude quakes during the July Fourth holiday near Ridgecrest, California, underscore safety concerns that Nevada first raised about Yucca Mountain in 2008.

"These significant recent earthquakes so near to Yucca Mountain show one of the many geologic problems with the site as a nuclear waste repository," Sisolak said in a statement, adding that the state is resolved "to fight any continued federal effort to use Nevada as the nation's nuclear dumping ground." Ridgecrest is 108 miles (174 kilometers) west of Yucca Mountain, an ancient volcanic ridge at the western edge of the Nevada National Security Site. The site is a vast secure federal reservation some 90 miles (145 kilometers) northwest of Las Vegas where the U.S. used to conduct nuclear weapons tests.

An Energy Department spokeswoman said in an email that the agency would respond to the letter "through the proper channels."

Sisolak's letter also was signed by U.S. Sens. Catherine Cortez Masto and Jacky Rosen and Reps.



In this July 14, 2018, file photo, a sign warns of a falling danger on the crest of Yucca Mountain during a congressional tour near Mercury, Nev.

Dina Titus, Steven Horsford and Susie Lee, all Democrats, and Rep. Mark Amodei, a Republican.

The Energy Department faces legal pressure to take possession of tens of thousands of tons of highly radioactive spent nuclear reactor fuel currently stored at 121 above-ground sites in 35 states.

The government in 1982 began studying Yucca Mountain as a remote and secure repository. The site was designated by Congress in 2002 as the only site in the nation to receive the material.

But the project was shelved in 2010 under pressure from then-Senate Democratic Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada and President Barack Obama. They said nuclear waste should be stored in a state that wants it.

Nevada has fought the proposed repository at every step — challenging site selection and engineering and transportation decisions, as well as withholding

land and water permits. The state began arguing 11 years ago, before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, that Energy De-

partment studies improperly downplayed the risk of earthquakes damaging a repository and releasing deadly radioactivity.

Associated Press

With his letter to Perry, Sisolak included opinions by the state's top earthquake experts: James Faulds at the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology and Graham Kent at the seismological laboratory at the University of Nevada, Reno. They said scientific tools developed since Yucca Mountain was studied in the 1980s and 1990s could provide enhanced satellite imaging of desert surface features; new mapping of faults and seismic hazards; better charts of the age and frequency of past earthquakes; and help create models for the effects of quakes close and far from Yucca Mountain.

"The Ridgecrest earthquake sequence, which began July 4 and has yet to subside, clearly highlights the importance of such studies," Faulds and Kent said. □

The heat goes on: June toastiest on record, July may follow

By SETH BORENSTEIN

AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The heat goes on: Earth sizzled to its hottest June on record as the climate keeps going to extremes.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Thursday announced that June averaged 60.6 degrees (15.9 Celsius), about 1.7 degrees (0.9 Celsius) warmer than the 20th century average.

It beat out 2016 for the hottest June with records going back to 1880.

NASA and other groups also concluded that last month was the hottest June on record.

Europe shattered June temperature records by far, while other records were set in Russia, Africa, Asia and South America.

France had its hottest month in history, which is unusual because July is traditionally hotter than June. The Lower 48 states in America were near normal. "Earth is running a fever that won't break thanks to climate change," North Carolina state climatolo-



People cool off in the fountains of the Trocadero gardens, in front of the Eiffel Tower, in Paris, Friday, June 28, 2019.

Associated Press

gist Kathie Dello said in an email.

"This won't be the last record warm summer month that we will see."

It seems likely that July too will be a record hot month, said Berkeley Earth climate scientist Robert Rohde.

The United States set a record for most precipitation. The 12-month period from July 2018 to June 2019 was the wettest on record. □

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Sally Field, 'Sesame Street' to receive Kennedy Center award

By ASHRAF KHALIL

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Actress Sally Field and the long-running children's TV show "Sesame Street" are in the latest class of Kennedy Center Honors recipients.

Others chosen to receive the award for lifetime achievement in the arts include singer Linda Ronstadt, conductor Michael Tilson Thomas and the musical group Earth, Wind and Fire. The recipients announced Thursday will be honored during a gala ceremony in early December. For the third straight year, the attendance of President Donald Trump seems likely to be a subject of speculation in advance of the event. Trump has skipped the past two celebrations. The first time, multiple recipients threatened to boycott the event if he attended.

The Kennedy Center's president, Deborah Rutter, said it was too early to tell whether Trump or first lady Melania Trump would attend. "They are always invited," she said. "He is the president of the United States of America, and it would be good to have these extraordinary individuals acknowledged by the president."

Field was a television star at age 19 and went on to forge a distinguished



In this March 3, 2017 file photo, actress Sally Field poses for a portrait in New York. Iconic actress Sally Field and foundational children's show Sesame Street top this year's class of Kennedy Center Honors recipients.

career that included two Academy Awards and three Emmys. At 72, she remains active and starred last year in a Netflix miniseries called "Maniac." "Sesame Street" debuted in 1969 and remains a force in children's educational television. The show now airs new episodes on HBO, and they are rebroadcast months later on the show's original home, PBS. In recent years, the creators have worked to embrace more modern issues, introducing a puppet named Julia with autism. The co-founders of "Sesame

Street," Joan Ganz Cooney and Lloyd Morrisett, will accept the award on behalf of the show.

Ronstadt was one of the faces of American music in the 1970s and 80s, landing on the cover of Time magazine in 1977. Her four-decade career moved smoothly between country, pop and rock with occasional deviations into Mexican folk songs. In 2011, she announced her retirement from singing, citing the advancing effects of Parkinson's disease.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Ronstadt

professed to a fairly ambivalent relationship to the mountain of prizes, awards and honors she has accrued. "I don't think a lot about prizes," she said. "You do the work for the work." Tilson Thomas, who has served as music director of the San Francisco Symphony for the past 14 years, has become particularly renowned for his interpretations of the entire works of Gustav Mahler. Asked why he felt he was chosen for the award, Tilson Thomas laughed and said, "I guess I've just been around a

Associated Press

long time! I started out always being the youngest person on stage, and now I'm the oldest person on stage." Earth, Wind and Fire was originally formed in Chicago by lead singer Maurice White. The group drew elements from rhythm and blues, funk, and disco in a flashy crowd-pleasing mix that spawned eight No. 1 hits. Songs such as "September" and "Shining Star" remain in heavy rotation for both radio station programmers and wedding DJs. Maurice White died in 2016, but his brother Verdine, the group's longtime bassist, said he was proud of how their songs have become part of the soundtrack of American music.

"We're part of the culture. We're part of people's lives," he said. "The music makes people happy. When you come to a show you leave happier than when you came."

The 42nd annual Kennedy Center Honors Gala will be held on Dec. 7. The presenters and performers are usually kept secret from the honorees until the show. Ronstadt played a role in the tribute to The Eagles, 2016 Kennedy Center Honorees, and she said she enjoys the surprise format of the evening. "I'll be curious to see who they come up with," she said.

The event will be broadcast on CBS on Dec. 15. □

'Raised in Captivity' reveals author's warped imagination

By ROB MERRILL

Associated Press

"Raised in Captivity" (Penguin Press), by Chuck Klosterman

Chuck Klosterman seems like a great hang. He's the guy at the party who has everyone spitting out their drinks as they laugh while trying to swallow — the one who is never at a loss for words in a game of "Would You Rather?"

It's fun to imagine the genesis of some of the stories billed as "Fictional Nonfiction" on the cover of his latest collection.

Flying cross-country, perhaps, from his northwest



This cover image released by Penguin Press shows "Raised in Captivity: Fictional Nonfiction" by Chuck Klosterman.

Associated Press

home to visit his agent in New York: What if there was a puma in the plane's bathroom? Podcasting with his pal Bill Simmons: Could a football team run the perfect play over and over again to win every game? At the doctor's office getting vaccinated: Do vets get shots to protect themselves from pet diseases? "Raised in Captivity" is like a read-only version of "The Twilight Zone," complete with a cover graphic of a skeleton on a leash being taken for a walk. But unlike that TV show, readers don't have to wait very long for the twist.

Most of these stories suck you in right away with a perfect opening sentence: "I have the kind of job where I take a shower at night, after I get home.;" "It started with a question from a six-year-old, which is the only way it could have happened at all.;" "Sheila knew she wanted to murder her husband."

Five to seven minutes later, you're laughing or looking under your bed. Then it's on to the next one before the fizz from the first stops tingling in your brain. Topics range from a secret government research team investigating why coin flips

are no longer 50/50, to a band whose song is suddenly adopted by white nationalists as a racist anthem, to a couple considering a procedure that allows the pain of childbirth to pass from women to men. While some of the stories seem far-fetched, nearly all feel plausible in the conspiracy-laden, technology-obsessed world we now live in.

This is Chuck Klosterman at his best.

"Raised in Captivity" combines social criticism with pop culture commentary and is highly recommended. □

25 years later, 'The Lion King' roars again with Beyoncé

By LINDSEY BAHR
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — It was just a few months ago that director Jon Favreau was sitting in a scoring session with composer Hans Zimmer for "The Lion King," his ambitious and technology-driven reimaging of the 1994 animated classic, and he and everyone else in the room were getting a little emotional.

It's no wonder: They were

recording the music for the stampede (yes, THAT stampede).

"Working on it doesn't make it any less emotional," Favreau said in an interview earlier this year. And don't even get him started on what it was like to listen to James Earl Jones record his lines as Mufasa. "The Lion King" is three years in the making with some of the biggest names in entertainment, including



This image released by Disney shows Nala, voiced by Beyoncé Knowles-Carter, left, and Simba, voiced by Donald Glover in a scene from "The Lion King."

Associated Press

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DONALD GLOVER | BEYONCÉ KNOWLES-CARTER

Disney THE LION KING
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH	MON-THU 5:50	8:30
	FRI 5:50	8:30 11:10
VIP	SAT 3:10	5:50 8:30 11:10
	SUN 3:10	5:50 8:30

PH	MON-THU 5:00	7:40
	FRI 5:00	7:40 10:20
	SAT 2:20	5:00 7:40 10:20
	SUN 2:20	5:00 7:40

CXC

PBP	MON-THU & SUN 2:10	4:45 7:20
	FRI-SAT 2:10	4:45 7:20 10:00

PBP	MON-SUN 1:15	3:50 6:25 9:00
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ANTONIO BANDERAS | PENELOPE CRUZ

BEST ACTOR
CANNES FILM FESTIVAL ANTONIO BANDERAS

dolor y gloria
SPANISH

PBP	MON-THU & SUN 2:50	5:25 8:00
	FRI-SAT 2:50	5:25 8:00 10:35

NEW THIS WEEK!

TOM HANKS | TIM ALLEN

Disney Pixar TOY STORY 4
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PBP	MON-THU & SUN 1:40	4:00 6:25 8:50
	FRI-SAT 1:40	4:00 6:25 8:50 11:15

ALSO SHOWING!

DAVE BAUTISTA | KUMAIL NANJIANI

STUBER
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH	MON-THU 5:05	7:15 9:25
	FRI 5:05	7:15 9:25 11:35
	SAT 2:55	5:05 7:15 9:25 11:35
	SUN 2:55	5:05 7:15 9:25

VERA FARMIGA | PATRICK WILSON

ANNABELLE COMES HOME
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH	MON-SUN 7:05	9:35
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OPENING JULY 25: THE POISON ROSE, CATS

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Beyoncé, and the expectations couldn't be higher. None of the other major studios have even dared to go up against it in theaters this weekend. Early tracking suggest that it could make as much as \$150 million in its first weekend in North America, and it's already grossed over \$55 million in China. It helps, of course, that the material is familiar to most of the world already. The animated film, which opened in June 1994 at the peak of the Disney animation renaissance, went on to become a critical hit, the highest grossing film of the year at the worldwide box office (it was second domestically to "Forrest Gump"), a two-time Oscar winner for Zimmer's score and the song "Can You Feel the Love Tonight," and a Broadway show — now the third-longest running and one of the most successful in history. So it was only a matter of time before the Walt Disney Co., in this new era of live-action remakes of its animated library which this year included both "Dumbo" and "Aladdin," turned to one of its most beloved.

Favreau wasn't even finished with his version of "The Jungle Book" when he started inquiring about plans for "The Lion King." He'd learned so much about motion capture technology and had a

team he knew how to collaborate with. He was ready to take it to the next level. So, he raised his hand for the big job.

"I kind of lobbied for it," Favreau said. The studio waited until "The Jungle Book" was out to give him the official word, but the 2016 movie which scored with both critics and audiences, turned out to be a pretty good audition. And he set to work preparing this "live-action" "Lion King," which, it should be said isn't live-action at all. It's a combination of virtual reality and "keyframe animation," which means that the animals are all animated by hand, "just like all the old animated movies," Favreau explained. In other words, if you visited the set, you would not find some gargantuan soundstage and a bunch of actors running around acting like lions while covered in motion capture bodysuits and dots.

Rather, it was more of a "black box with people wearing headsets and VR goggles." The VR was used to "drive the camera" and "instead of just one layout artist on a computer, we had a full crew operating virtual cameras in a virtual reality environment," he said. That includes esteemed cinematographer Caleb Deschanel, a six-time Oscar nominee.

The resulting special effect is that "It should feel like a live-action movie," he said, even if it's technically animated.

For the cast, which includes Donald Glover as Simba, Beyoncé as Nala, Chiwetel Ejiofor as Scar, Seth Rogen as Pumbaa and Billy Eichner as Timon, the process was pretty similar to what they would have done for a traditionally animated movie, but Favreau also filmed the actors during their voice recording sessions to help the animators. He knew it would look weird to try to translate human expressions onto the cats' faces so instead emotion is conveyed through body language (and a little mouth moving for the dialogue).

Anyone who's seen the marketing thus far has no doubt recognized some familiar touchstones from the 1994 film. So familiar, in fact, that many have wondered if it was going to be a shot-for-shot remake. Favreau said that isn't the case.

"It diverges quite a bit," he said. "It's much longer than the original film. And part of what we're doing here is to (give it more dimension) not just visually but both story wise and emotionally."

The main story points are the same, but like the stage musical, there will be differences too. Plus, he wanted to capitalize on the uniqueness of his actors. □

Jerry Seinfeld learns from comedy's best on Netflix series

By JONATHAN LANDRUM Jr.
Associated Press

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — Jerry Seinfeld would rather cruise in classic cars and sip coffee with comedy's best than reboot his uber-successful "Seinfeld" television series.

"No, and do what? Make it worse?" Seinfeld said in an interview Wednesday night about his eponymous NBC sitcom, which celebrated its 30-year anniversary this month. "I'm very fortunate to be in the position to make that show with those people at that time. I wouldn't be arrogant enough to think I could do it again. That's egomaniacal. I'm happy with what I have now."

These days, Seinfeld is focused on learning more about the "sharpest minds in comedy" through his Netflix series "Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee." The 11th season of the series premieres Friday on the streaming service featuring Eddie Murphy, who talked about his career and shared stories with Seinfeld about them coming up in comedy together in New



Jerry Seinfeld attends the "Comedians In Cars Getting Coffee," photo call at The Paley Center for Media, Wednesday, July 17, 2019, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

York in the 1970s.

The new season also includes an array of other comedians including Martin Short, Rick Gervais, Seth Rogan, Bridget Everett, Barry Marder, Melissa Villaseñor and Mario Joyner. Jamie Foxx appears in an episode to talk about him wanting to return to standup and his impersonation of Dave Chappelle.

"It's kind of a music video to me. It's just kind of visual. The words are interesting and sometimes it's funny, but I like it to have a rhythm and flow and then it's over," Seinfeld said. "It's just very quick. I always like when people go 'I wish that was a little longer.'"

Seinfeld launched "Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee" on Sony's Crackle in

2012. The series was moved to Netflix two years ago after the comedian signed a massive deal with the streaming service.

This season, Seinfeld continues to pick up each guest in a different vintage car, from a Maserati Mistral to a Rolls-Royce convertible to a beat-up Dodge Monaco. He takes them to a cafe or restaurant for coffee where

they have an easy-flowing conversation about their career and life experiences as comedians.

Seinfeld said he learns something new from each guest. He was surprised when Murphy spoke about not being as confident as most thought during his rise in comedy. He also didn't know that Rogen first heard about Bill Cosby's sexual misconduct history from Hannibal Buress in 2014, a month before Buress accused Cosby in a viral stand-up routine.

For Seinfeld, he feels somewhat like a news reporter in an effort to create a comfortable environment for guests to open up.

"People like to tell me stuff, and I don't know why," said Seinfeld, who has featured former President Barack Obama and Kevin Hart in previous seasons. "It's happened to me my whole life, because I think I really listen. But I would never put anything in the show I think the person might not want in there. I want the show to be fun like a little cappuccino foam, just light and pleasant." □

Janet, Chris Brown, 50 Cent to perform at Saudi concert

By MESFIN FEKADU

AP Music Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Janet Jackson, Chris Brown, 50 Cent, Future and Tyga have been added to the lineup for the Jeddah World Fest, the concert in Saudi Arabia that Nicki Minaj pulled out of because of human rights concerns.

The website for the event, to take place Thursday at the King Abdullah Sports Stadium, posted photos of the newly added acts alongside previously announced performers Liam Payne and Steve Aoki. The Human Rights Foundation and other organizations have asked artists not to perform in Saudi Arabia, where gender segregation between single men and women is enforced in many restaurants, coffee shops, public schools and universities. Other rules have loosened in the kingdom with women now allowed to



This combination photo shows, from left, rapper 50 Cent, singer Janet Jackson and rapper Future who have been added to the lineup for the Jeddah World Fest, the concert in Saudi Arabia.

Associated Press

drive and attend events at sports stadiums.

Representatives for Jackson, Brown, 50 Cent, Future and Tyga didn't immediately reply to emails seeking comment.

Thor Halvorsen, president of the Human Rights Foundation, criticized the entertainers in a statement Thursday to The Associated Press, saying it was "profoundly distressing that they have chosen money over

morals."

He added: "These individuals constantly make public statements of support for LGBT rights and women's rights, except, apparently, when a seven-figure check is attached. The hypocrisy is breathtaking. Principle apparently matters to them far more than principles."

Minaj said she pulled out of the concert because she wants to show support for women's rights, gay rights

and freedom of expression. Human rights organizations praised the rapper for her decision.

Saudi Arabia saw profound change last year as a result of Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's top-down reform efforts, including the opening of the first movie theater and the lifting of the world's only ban on women driving. But there's a hard limit to the reforms — as revealed by the brutal killing of Saudi writer Jamal Khashoggi by Saudi agents close to the crown prince in October and the reported torture of several women's rights activists in detention. While the arena for entertainment is widening, the space for political engagement and dissent has virtually disappeared.

"It's clear that, after losing Nicki Minaj on the basis of the Saudi regime's atrocious human rights record

and their treatment of women and the gay community, the Crown Prince has chosen to spend whatever it takes to give the appearance that things are normal and that this is just another music concert. Except it isn't," Halvorsen's statement read. "It's a blatant public relations push on the heels of the pre-meditated assassination of a Washington Post columnist and the ongoing imprisonment of dozens of human rights activists. Saudi is engaged in a sophisticated campaign of distraction."

Over the past several months, the kingdom has seen performances by Mariah Carey, Enrique Iglesias, the Black Eyed Peas, Sean Paul, David Guetta and Tiesto. That's a stark change from when Saudi morality police would raid establishments that played loud music. □

Skyping the doctor? Poll shows it's not just for the young

By LAURAN NEERGAARD

EMILY SWANSON

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Every morning, 92-year-old Sidney Kramer wraps a blood pressure cuff around his arm and steps on a scale, and readings of his heart health beam to a team of nurses — and to his daughter's smartphone — miles from his Maryland home. Red flags? A nurse immediately calls, a form of telemedicine that is helping Kramer live independently by keeping his congestive heart failure under tight control.

"It's reassuring both psychologically and physically. The way he's put it to me, it's like having a doctor appointment every morning," said Miriam Dubin, Kramer's daughter.

The vast majority of older Americans and their caregivers are ready to give virtual health care a try: Nearly 9 in 10 adults ages 40 and over would be comfortable using at least one type of telemedicine for themselves or an aging loved one, says a new poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

But they want to make sure that an e-visit or other remote care is just as good as they'd get in person, and that their health information stays private, according to the survey released Thursday.

Long considered an option mainly for improving access to health care in rural areas with few doc-



In this May 29, 2018, photo, Sidney Kramer, 92, uses a remote medical monitoring system to check his vital signs at his home in Bethesda, Md.

Associated Press

tors, telemedicine is gaining ground with tech-savvy younger consumers — they text their physician with questions or Skype with a mild complaint. For seniors with chronic illnesses or mobility problems that make simply reaching a doctor's office an ordeal, telehealth could be more than a convenience. The graying population is raising serious questions about how the nation will provide enough quality long-term care.

But while private insurance increasingly covers certain services such as a video visit, seniors have had a harder time because Medicare tightly restricts what it will pay for.

That's starting to change, with a law Congress passed last winter that ex-

pands Medicare coverage for such options as video visits to diagnose stroke symptoms or check on home dialysis patients. Also, Medicare Advantage programs used by a third of beneficiaries can start offering additional telehealth options.

"While the interest is huge, one of the big barriers remains reimbursement," said Johns Hopkins University telemedicine chief Dr. Ingrid Zimmer-Galler, who has turned to grants to help fund such services as telepsychiatry for dementia patients. The new law "is really a huge step in the right direction. It certainly doesn't cover everything."

Costs are a major issue for people who need ongoing living assistance. Less than a third of adults age 40 and over have set aside any money for their future long term care needs, the AP-NORC survey shows, and more than half mistakenly think they'll be able to rely on Medicare to help cover nursing care or home health aides.

Telemedicine will have to

replace in-person care, not add to it, to help with those costs, cautioned Zimmer-Galler.

As access for seniors promises to grow, the AP-NORC Center poll shows widespread interest in tele-

health. More than half of those surveyed said they'd use a computer or smartphone to see a doctor for 15 minutes," said Don Withey of Cortland, New York, who helps his 92-year-old father and 89-year-old mother get to their appointments. But, "we don't know much more about it other than the fact you can talk to a doctor over the computer or smartphone."

Just 12 percent of adults say they wouldn't use any form of telemedicine.

There are concerns. More than 30 percent of people worry about privacy or the security or health information. About half fear that telemedicine could lead to lower-quality care, the poll found.

"It's not about having a video screen or Skype in the home or even a blood pressure cuff in the home. It's about the team that's behind it and the clinicians who are supporting the care of that patient," said Rachel DeSantis, chief of staff at Johns Hopkins Home Care Group, which provides the 92-year-old Kramer's remote monitoring.

The Hopkins program provides no-cost monitoring for a month or two to select high-risk patients after a hospitalization because research found it reduces their chances of readmission.

When the monitor recorded Kramer's weight creeping up one week, nurses immediately knew it was fluid build-up, a heart failure symptom that needed quick treatment. □



In this May 29, 2018, photo, Sidney Kramer, 92, checks his weight while using a remote medical monitoring system to check his vital signs at his home in Bethesda, Md.

Associated Press



In this May 29, 2018, photo, Sidney Kramer, 92, points to his notebook he uses to help him keep track of vital signs after using a remote medical monitoring system at his home in Bethesda, Md.

Associated Press